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XENOMETRIX

Newsletter

Issue 2 / June 2009

Dear customer,

This second Xenometrix E-Newsletter highlights an important addition to our range of Ames MPF test kits. We also present a new paper on the Ames II microplate assay, which you can download.

There is a reminder of three international meetings in August/September at which Xenometrix will be exhibiting. Also, there is another good reason to visit Basel this summer – a wonderful exhibition of landscapes by Vincent van Gogh!

If you would like any further information from Xenometrix, please call us on +41 61 482 14 34 or email info@xenometrix.ch.

Kind regards from Switzerland
Xenometrix AG

Xenometrix AG
Gewerbestrasse 25
CH-4123 Allschwil
Switzerland

Tel. +41 61 482 14 34
Fax +41 61 482 20 72
info@xenometrix.ch

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Ames MPF PENTA I test kit

Mutagenicity Testing in Liquid Microplate Format (MPF) using OECD Guideline 471 compliant strains

Xenometrix now offers the Ames MPF PENTA I assay kit which comprises all strains required by the "OECD Guideline 471 for Testing of Chemicals". At least five tester strains should be used for the complete bacterial reverse mutation test.

TA98, TA100, TA1535, TA1537, *E. coli* WP2 *uvrA*, *E. coli* WP2 [pKM101] are all included in the Ames MPF PENTA I kit.

The Ames MPF Penta I kit includes media, ampicillin, rat liver S9 (optional) and positive controls (optional). Customized kits, individual strains, media, rat liver S9 and positive controls are also available separately.

The two *E. coli* strains are combined during exposure in the PENTA I assay. Since they have different sensitivities towards different mutagens the mixture detects a broader range of mutagenic compounds than either of the single strains alone.

The Ames MPF assays are modified versions of the Ames test using liquid culture instead of agar plates. The assays are based on the fluctuation and pre-incubation method cited in the OECD Guideline 471 for testing chemicals, but use 384-well microplates and have a colorimetric read-out.

There are important benefits of this format:

- 66% reduction in compound required*
- 80% reduction in operator intervention*
- 66% reduction in contaminated waste*
- Reduced consumption of rat liver S9*
- Quality-controlled (phenotyped and sequenced) *S. typhimurium* and *E. coli* strains
- Ready-to-use kits including strains, media, Ampicillin, S9 and positive controls
- Standardized procedure and detailed instruction manual

* compared with the traditional Ames test

- ▶ More information
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Please visit us at our stands at the following events to learn more about the Ames MPF PENTA I assay



- 5th International Workshop on Genotoxicity Testing (IWGT), Biozentrum of the University of Basel, Switzerland, August 17–19, 2009.
[More Information](#)
- 10th International Conference on Environmental Mutagens (ICEM), Palazzo dei Congressi, Florence, Italy, August 20–25, 2009.
[More Information](#)
- 14th International Symposium on Toxicity Assessment (ISTA 14) August 29 – September 4, 2009, Metz, France.
[More Information](#)

New publication comparing Ames II microplate assay and Ames plate incorporation assay in *Mutagenesis* – free download from www.xenometrix.ch

Results from a collaborative study with BASF comparing 71 compounds in the traditional Ames test and the Ames II liquid microplate test have been published in the journal *Mutagenesis*. The excellent correlation between the two test systems, with respect to strain specificity, need for metabolic activation and predictivity for carcinogenicity, confirms that the liquid microplate version of the Ames test produces results equivalent to the classic Ames plate incorporation assay.

"Comparison of the Ames II and traditional Ames test responses with respect to mutagenicity, strain specificities, need for metabolism and correlation with rodent carcinogenicity."

Markus Kamber, Sini Flückiger-Isler, Gunter Engelhardt, Rudolf Jaechk and Errol Zeiger,
Mutagenesis 2009; doi: 10.1093/mutage/gep017

► [Download the publication](#)

What's new besides business?

Xenometrix is situated close to Basel where this summer a spectacular exhibition is taking place from April to September. The Kunstmuseum Basel is staging the first showing worldwide of the landscape paintings by a legendary artist:

**Vincent van Gogh
"Between Earth and Heaven: The Landscapes"
April 26 – September 27, 2009**

Seventy paintings – both world-famous key works as well as paintings barely seen previously by the general public – will give a completely new insight into van Gogh's body of work. In addition, forty masterpieces by contemporaries, from Kunstmuseum Basel's world-famous collection, will place van Gogh's groundbreaking approach to nature in a broader context. A multimedia introduction to the life and work of van Gogh will open up the exhibition to the general public. This makes the exhibition the most important European art event in 2009.

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