

Histological Methods for Axolotl Tissues

Warren F. Fox suggests the following research paper: Bryant, S.V., and Iten, L.E. (1974). The regulative ability of the limb regeneration blastema of Notophthalmus viridescens: Experiments in situ. Wilhelm Roux' Archiv 174: 90-101; as a source of information for preparing whole mounts of amphibian cartilage.

Warren Fox's own revised procedure of that method is given below:

Victoria Blue Method for Whole Mounts

(Revised 1978 W.F.)

1. Bouin's Fixative 1-2 days
2. Rinse & store in 70% EtOH
3. Remove Bouin's with 2% NH_3OH 12hr-2 days
4. Bleach in 10% H_2O_2 12hr-2 days
5. 50% Alc. (Rinse)
6. Acid Alc (1% HCL in 70% EtOH) 2hr-1day
7. Stain in 1% Victoria Blue 2hr
8. Destain in 70% Alc (till Lt. Blue)* ~ 1hr
9. 95% Alc. ~ 1hr
10. 100% ~ 1hr
11. Clear & store in Methylsalicylate

* Time varies with each limb - use color as indicator - should be Lt. Blue after 70% EtOH and still have pale blue color after 100% EtOH

Acid Alc. - 1 ml ~ 37% HCL to 100ML 70% EtOH

2% NH_3OH - 2 ml ~ 58% NH_3OH to 100ml D. H_2O

1% Victoria Blue - 1 gm Victoria Blue B (CI 44045) to 100 ml Acid Alc.