

Making Embryo Water

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University of Minnesota Zebrafish Core Facility

Zebrafish embryos have optimum survival in water with a salt concentration of 60µg/mL (Westerfield, 2000). Embryo water is used for embryo storage, embryo gel trays, and raising juveniles in the nursery. With two carboys in the fish room, it is best to fill one as soon as it is empty so that there is always embryo water at fish room temperature. Sudden changes in water temperature can kill embryos.

Protocol

1. Begin by filling 50L carboy with MilliQ water.
2. When the carboy has around 10L of water in it, pour in 3g of Instant Ocean salt.
3. Continue filling until final volume is 50L. Keep this carboy in the fish room overnight to warm to fishroom temperature before using with embryos or juveniles.
4. Disinfect carboy every 3 months.

References

Westerfield, M. (2000). The zebrafish book. A guide for the laboratory use of zebrafish (*Danio rerio*). 4th ed., Univ. of Oregon Press, Eugene.