

CJ236 Chemically Competent Cells

Cat#: CC1321-01 | Format: 20 x 50 μ l | Storage: -80°C

Description

CJ236 Chemically Competent Cells are an E. coli host strain used to generate uracil-containing single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) for Kunkel-method site-directed mutagenesis. In CJ236, a portion of the thymine (T) residues in newly synthesized DNA is replaced with deoxyuracil (dU) due to deficiency in dUTPase (dut^-) and uracil DNA glycosylase (ung^-). This uracil-substituted ssDNA serves as a template for mutagenesis with high efficiency.

CJ236 harbors an F-factor carrying a chloramphenicol resistance marker (CamR), enabling phage infection for M13 ssDNA production. The strain was derived from BW313 by introducing pCJ105, an F' CmR construct. CJ236 is suitable for preparing uracil-containing M13 and phagemid templates for use in the Kunkel mutagenesis workflow.

Genotype

Δ (HindIII)::cat (Tra⁺ Pil⁺ CamR) / $ung-1$ $relA1$ $dut-1$ $thi-1$ $spoT1$ $mcrA$

Specifications

Catalog Number	Size	Transformation Efficiency	Storage
CC1321-01	20 x 50 μ l	1 x 10 ⁷ cfu/ μ g pUC19	-80°C

Materials Required but Not Supplied

- 37°C shaking incubator and non-shaking incubator
- 42°C water bath
- LB agar plates (10 cm diameter) with appropriate selective antibiotic
- SOC medium
- Ice bucket with ice

Before Starting

- Equilibrate the water bath to 42°C.
- Pre-warm SOC medium to 37°C.
- Prepare LB agar plates with the appropriate antibiotic for selection.

Transformation Protocol

1. Thaw one tube of competent cells on ice (approximately 10 minutes).
2. Add 1–2 μ l of plasmid DNA directly to the competent cells. Mix gently by tapping or swirling. Do not vortex.
3. Incubate on ice for 20–30 minutes.
4. Heat shock at 42°C in a water bath for exactly 45 seconds.
5. Return the tube to ice immediately and incubate for 2 minutes.
6. Add 250 μ l of pre-warmed SOC medium. Incubate at 37°C with shaking for 1 hour.
7. Plate the entire transformation onto an LB agar plate containing the appropriate antibiotic.
8. Incubate the plate at 37°C for 12–15 hours.

Storage and Stability

Store at -80°C. Do not store at -20°C. Repeated freeze-thaw cycles or storage above -80°C will reduce transformation efficiency. If reduced efficiency is suspected, verify performance using pUC19 control plasmid before use in critical applications.

Notes

- CJ236 is intended for the preparation of uracil-substituted ssDNA templates for Kunkel-method mutagenesis. It is not recommended as a general-purpose cloning host.
- The F-factor in CJ236 enables phage infection required for M13 ssDNA production. Maintain chloramphenicol selection when propagating the strain to preserve the F-factor.
- Cell density upon receipt: 1–2 x 10⁹ bacteria/ml.

References

- Joyce CM and Grindley ND. (1984) *J. Bacteriol.* 158:636–643.
- Raleigh EA, Lech K, and Brent R. (1989) In: Ausubel FM et al. (Eds.), *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*. Wiley, New York.
- Kunkel TA, Bebenek K, and McClary J. (1991) *Methods Enzymol.* 204:125–139. Academic Press, San Diego.
- Kunkel TA et al. (1987) *Methods Enzymol.* 154:367–382. Academic Press, San Diego.