

How to start overnight cultures of bacteria

you will need one sterile test tube per overnight culture + one sterile toothpick

get bacterial plates from the frig

label the test tubes

add 3 ml LB to each tube

add 3 μ l ampicillin (or 3 μ l kanamycin) to each tube

wearing gloves take a sterile toothpick, scrape up one marked colony and drop the toothpick with the colony at its bottom end into the appropriate test tube. Try to avoid any (untransformed) satellite colonies when you pick your colony.

repeat the last step for all other marked colonies

wrap the plates in (fresh) parafilm and put them back into the frig

make sure that the tubes are labeled with (a) the name of the colony,
(b) the date, (c) your initials

bring them to the incubator and put them in the roller drum (the switch is on the right side, somewhat in the back) Please balance your tubes, i.e. keep pairs on opposite ends (no need to weigh and adjust every single tube.)

updated on 05.11.01 by Andreas