

## **NIGROSIN- EOSIN**

### **Sperm Vitality Stain      100 Tests**

#### **PRINCIPLES :**

A cell with an intact cell membrane does not take up the stain Eosin Y, while a dead cell (i.e. one with damaged cell membrane) takes up the red stain. Nigrosin is used as a background stain to provide contrast for the unstained (white) live cells.

#### **REAGENTS :**

- Eosin Y (C.I. 45380)
- Nigrosin (C.I. 50420)
- Sodium Chloride

#### **PROCEDURE :**

1. Mix one drop (50  $\mu$ L) of undiluted, well-mixed liquefied semen with one drop (50  $\mu$ L) of eosin-nigrosin staining solution (e.g. in a porcelain spotting plate) and incubate for 30 seconds.
2. Then place a drop of solution (12-15  $\mu$ L per microscope slide) on a clean microscope slide, and make a smear.
3. Let the smear air dry and examine directly or mount permanently the same day, and examine after the mountant has dried (e.g. overnight). Mounted smears are stored at room temperature.
4. At least 200 spermatozoa should be assessed at 100 X objective (not phase contrast) with correct adjustment of bright field optics. Spermatozoa that are white (unstained) are classified as "live" and those that show any pink or red colouration are classified as "dead".

#### **Calculations and Results :**

The result is the proportion of vital ("live") spermatozoa, expressed as percentage. The proportion of live spermatozoa is usually somewhat higher than the proportion of motile spermatozoa in the sample.

#### **N.B**

This procedure is only a guide and it is preferable if each laboratory established his own conditions.

**NIGROSIN- EOSIN**  
**Sperm Vitality Stain**

**+15 to +25°C**                      **100 Tests**  
**In vitro diagnostic use**

**CAT. No.**                                      **NE 27 27**

**REAGENTS**

**Nigrosine-Eosin Stain**    **10 ml**

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