

Medicago's magic tablets

Simplicity, user-friendliness and ready-to-use are the keywords for Medicago

■ **BY** Alannah Eames September 2006

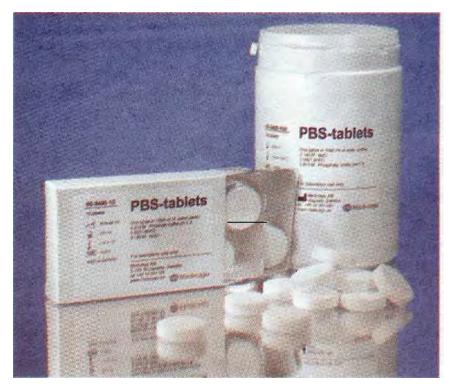
[Medicago C1:020] Medicago, based in Uppsala, is attending the BioTech Forum+ScanLab for the first time this year. The Swedish company's expertise lies in the fields of biochemistry, immunology, virology, parasitology, microbiology and chemistry from which it has developed its own product line.

At its stand, Medicago is showing its flagship products, a range of buffer tablets including its popular PBS and PBS Tween tablets. Also on display are its bioactive proteins and EC-Blue, which is a TMB-substrate used in ELISA procedures. No new products are being launched but as the company is a newcomer to the exhibition, it is the first time that visitors have the chance to view Medicago's full range of products.

Avoiding bottlenecks

Medicago's pre-made buffers and reagents are available in either a tablet or powder format and have been developed for use in immunological and microbiological laboratories. The solutions can be stored for up to three years at room temperature and do not contain any stabilizers or additives.

All the user needs to do is dissolve the tablet in, or mix the powder with, deionized water and after a couple of minutes the solution is ready for use. There is nothing more annoying than finding that a tablet does not fit in your laboratory bottle and Medicago has ensured its tablets are able to pass easily through the neck of a standard laboratory bottle, avoiding a common laboratory frustration.



Medicago's flagship products. The PBS and PBSTween tablets.

The company's PBS tablets have been specifically developed for use in immunological and microbiological laboratories while the PBSTween tablets suited for immunoassay procedures and are also recommended for ELISA processes.

New business area

The EC-Blue enhanced substrate is a ready-to-use liquid substrate for horseradish peroxidase immunoassays, so called due to the fact that it turns a deep blue when in the presence of a peroxidase labeled conjugate. Because it is ready-to-use, there is no need for additional mixing or for reagents.

Medicago also offers a range of twelve bioactive proteins which are delivered as lyophilized and are able to recognize and bind terminal and internal carbohydrate structures. They have been developed for use in histochemistry, cell biology, affinityblotting and affinity purification.

Medicago offers services such as freeze-drying, kit production and fermentation. Fermentation is a whole new business area for the company which it will offer customers in a few months' time. This will add to its current five product areas of focus: bioactive proteins; diagnostic and chemical kits; pre-made buffers and reagents; antibodies and antigens; and chemical synthesis.

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