# EnzyChrom<sup>TM</sup> α-Amylase Assay Kit (ECAM-100)

**Quantitative Colorimetric Amylase Determination at 585nm** 

#### **DESCRIPTION**

AMYLASE belongs to the family of glycoside hydrolase enzymes that break down starch into glucose molecules by acting on  $\alpha\text{-}1,4\text{-}$  glycosidic bonds. The  $\alpha\text{-}\text{amylases}$  (EC 3.2.1.1) cleave at random locations on the starch chain, ultimately yielding maltotriose and maltose, glucose and "limit dextrin" from amylose and amylopectin. In mammals,  $\alpha\text{-}\text{amylase}$  is a major digestive enzyme. Increased enzyme levels in humans are associated with salivary trauma, mumps due to inflammation of the salivary glands, pancreatitis and renal failure.

Simple, direct and automation-ready procedures for measuring amylase activity are very desirable. BioAssay Systems' EnzyChrom  $^{\text{TM}}$   $\alpha$ -amylase assay method involves two steps: (1).  $\alpha$ -amylase in the sample hydrolyzes starch and the product is rapidly converted to glucose by  $\alpha$ -glucosidase and hydrogen peroxide by glucose oxidase; (2). hydrogen peroxide concentration is determined with a colorimetric reagent.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

Determination of  $\alpha$ -amylase activity in blood, saliva, urine, grains and other agricultural samples.

# **KEY FEATURES**

Sensitive and accurate. Linear detection range 0.3 to 50 U/L  $\alpha$ -amylase in 96-well plate assay.

**Convenient**. The procedure involves adding a single working reagent, incubation for 15 min, followed by the detection reagent and a 20-min incubation and reading the optical density at 585 nm.

#### KIT CONTENTS

Assay Buffer (pH 7.0): 20 mL Substrate: 120  $\mu$ L Detection Reagent: 20 mL Enzyme A: 120  $\mu$ L Glucose Standard: 1 mL Enzyme B: 120  $\mu$ L

**Storage conditions**. Kit is shipped on ice. Store all components at -20°C. Shelf life: 6 months after receipt.

**Precautions**: reagents are for research use only. Normal precautions for laboratory reagents should be exercised while using the reagents. Please refer to Material Safety Data Sheet for detailed information.

#### **PROCEDURES**

Reagents. Equilibrate all components to room temperature. Keep thawed Enzyme Mix in a refrigerator or on ice. The substrate may have precipitates. Prior to use, vortex tube to dissolve precipitates; gentle swirl the Detection Reagent bottle.

Sample preparation. Ideally samples are assayed fresh. When stored frozen,  $\alpha$ -amylase is stable for one month. Ascorbic acid, heparin, EDTA, EGTA, citrate, SDS, Tris (> 8mM) and ethanol (>0.4%) interfere and should be avoided in sample preparation. If glucose is present in the sample, treat the samples as described in GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS. It is prudent to perform a pilot test with samples at various dilutions. Recommended dilution: serum 50-fold, saliva 2,000-fold in Assay Buffer prior to assay.

- 1. Prepare 400  $\mu$ M Glucose Standard by mixing 10  $\mu$ L of the provided (300 mg/dL) standard with 406  $\mu$ L Assay Buffer. Transfer 10  $\mu$ L Assay Buffer, 10  $\mu$ L 400  $\mu$ M glucose, and 10  $\mu$ L of each sample into separate wells of a clear flat-bottom 96-well plate.
- 2. Prepare enough Working Reagent for each well by mixing 40  $\mu L$  Assay Buffer, 0.5  $\mu L$  Substrate, 1  $\mu L$  Enzyme A, 1  $\mu L$  Enzyme B.

Transfer 40  $\mu$ L Working Reagent to each well. Incubate for 15 min at room temperature (25°C).

3. Add 150  $\mu L$  Detection Reagent to each well. Mix and incubate for 20 min at room temperature (25°C). Read OD585nm (540-610nm) on a plate reader.

# **CALCULATION**

The Amylase activity is calculated as

Activity = 
$$\frac{\text{OD}_{\text{SAMPLE}} - \text{OD}_{\text{BUFFER}}}{\text{OD}_{\text{STD}} - \text{OD}_{\text{BUFFER}}} \times \frac{400}{t \text{ (min)}} \times n \quad \text{(U/L)}$$

OD<sub>SAMPLE,</sub> OD<sub>STD</sub> and ODBUFFER are optical density values of the sample, the 400  $\mu$ M glucose standard and Assay Buffer. t is the incubation time. t = 15 min in the standard protocol. n is the dilution factor (n = 50 for serum, 2000 for saliva). One unit of enzyme catalyzes the production of 1  $\mu$ mole of glucose per min under the assay conditions.

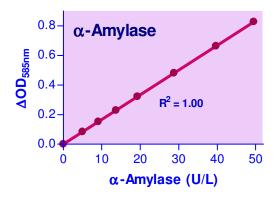
Note: if the calculated activity is higher than 50 U/L, dilute sample in Assay Buffer and repeat assay. Multiply the results by the dilution factor.

# MATERIALS REQUIRED, BUT NOT PROVIDED

Pipeting devices, centrifuge tubes, clear flat-bottom 96-well plates, plate reader, and optionally membrane filters (e.g. Microcon YM-10 from Millipore).

# **GENERAL CONSIDERARIONS**

For samples known to contain glucose, use a membrane filter (e.g. Microcon YM-10 from Millipore) to remove glucose: load 50  $\mu L$  sample in a Microcon YM-10 (10 kDa cutoff) and add 500  $\mu L$  Assay Buffer. Centrifuge at 14000 rpm for 30 min, check level of sample, ideally the sample level will be less than 50  $\mu L$ . Add 500  $\mu L$  Assay Buffer and repeat the centrifugation. Measure final sample volume with a pipetman and calculate dilution factor n = final sample volume/50  $\mu L$ .



Standard Curve in 96-well plate assay

# **PUBLICATIONS**

- 1. Han, M. J. (2020). Novel bacterial surface display system based on the Escherichia coli protein mipa. Journal of Microbiology and Biotechnology. 30(7): 1097-1103.
- 2. Bae, G.-S. (2020). Protective effect of nypa fruticans wurmb. Water extract on acute pancreatitis. Journal of Physiology & Pathology in Korean Medicine. 34(6): 334-340.
- 3. Lee, Sang-Bum, et al (2019). Impacts of whey protein on starch digestion in rumen and small intestine of steers. Journal of Animal Science and Technology 61.2: 98-108.