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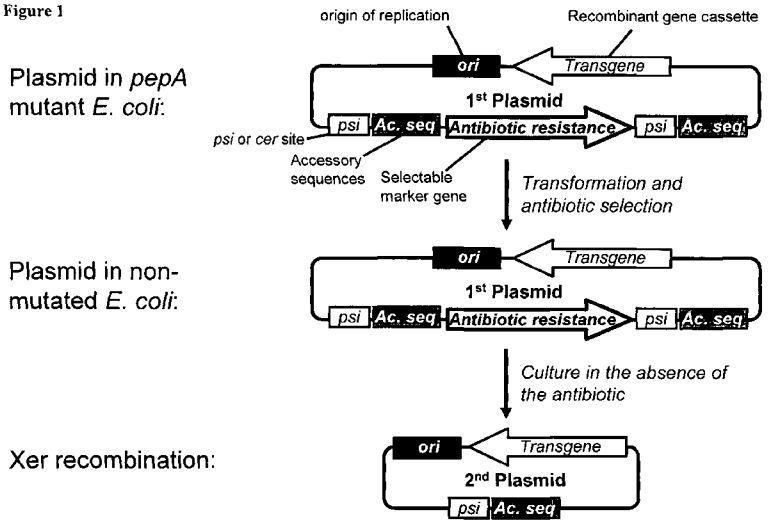
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(54) **Title**: SELF-DELETING PLASMID

Figure 1



(57) **Abstract**: A method of producing a selectable marker gene-free plasmid by culturing a plasmid containing a selectable marker gene flanked by site specific recombinase target sites in a host cell environment incapable of effecting recombination between the site specific recombinase target sites and subsequently culturing the plasmid in another host cell environment which is capable of effecting recombination between the site specific recombinase target sites, so that the selectable marker gene is excised. Uses of plasmids produced by the method for the production of recombinant protein for therapeutic and vaccine purposes, production of therapeutic DNA and DNA vaccines and delivery of recombinant protein and DNA to a patient using live bacterial vectors.

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