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(54) Title: UNIVERSAL MICROBIAL SAMPLE TRANSPORT MEDIUM FOR GENOMIC AND METAGENOMIC STUDIES

(57) Abstract: The present invention is drawn to a novel buffer composition comprising a nuclease quenching agent, a stabilizer, a salt, and a cryoprotectant. The present invention is also drawn to a process of producing the composition of the present invention and its utility. The composition of the present invention supports viability of aerobic and anaerobic microbes for extended periods over significant range of temperatures, without the presence of any significant amount of degradants of the constituents of the samples such as biological macromolecules and DNA. The present invention also relates to an economically viable and wide range applications for storage of biological and environmental samples containing microbes.



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