ABSTRACT

The mesophilic restriction endonuclease AvaI and its isoschizomers derived from *Anabaena* and *Anabaenopsis* have been found to support highly efficient amplification of target nucleic acid sequences in thermophilic Strand Displacement Amplification (tSDA). The maximum amplification factors observed occurred at temperatures which were previously reported to result in reduced enzyme activity. As AvaI is an isoschizomer of BsoBI (a thermophilic restriction endonuclease commonly used in tSDA), the invention provides an alternative enzyme which is more readily available than BsoBI and does not require the redesign of SDA amplification primers previously constructed for use in the BsoBI system.

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