

F.A.S.T.™ AFB User Guide: Staining Procedures for Acid-Fast Bacilli (AFB) Detection



F.A.S.T. Products used in specimen staining:

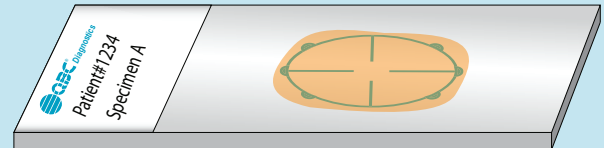
One (1) Bottle F.A.S.T. Auramine O AFB Stain

One (1) Bottle F.A.S.T. Decolorizer/Quencher

1. Process Sample

Process and prepare sample fully, as seen in the F.A.S.T. AFB User Guide: Slide Preparation.

Allow slide to completely cool before staining.



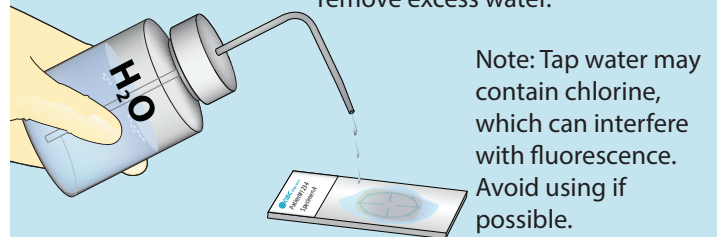
2. Apply Stain

Use 8-10 drops of F.A.S.T. Auramine O Stain, or until smear is covered. Let stand for approximately 1 minute.



3. Rinse

Gently rinse slide with water. Be careful to avoid washing specimen off of slide. Carefully shake slide to remove excess water.



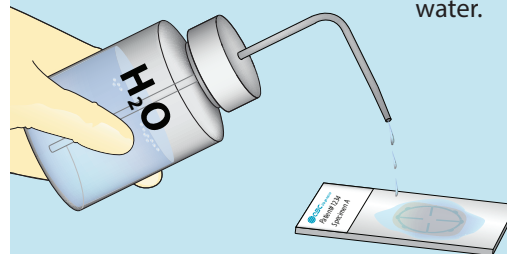
4. Apply Decolorizer

Use 8-10 drops of F.A.S.T. Decolorizer/Quencher, or until smear is covered. Let stand for approximately 1 minute.



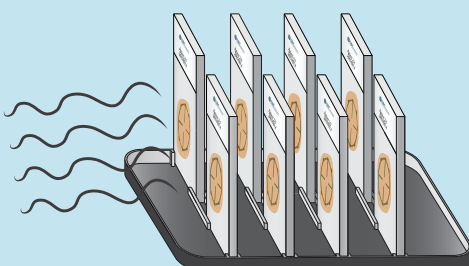
5. Rinse

Rinse slide again with water.



6. Dry Slide

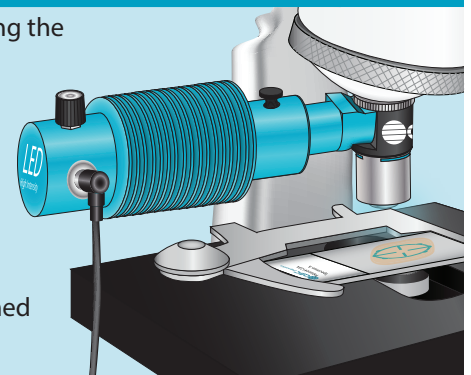
Allow slide to air dry. If necessary, gently blot excess water with a lint free tissue.



7. Examine

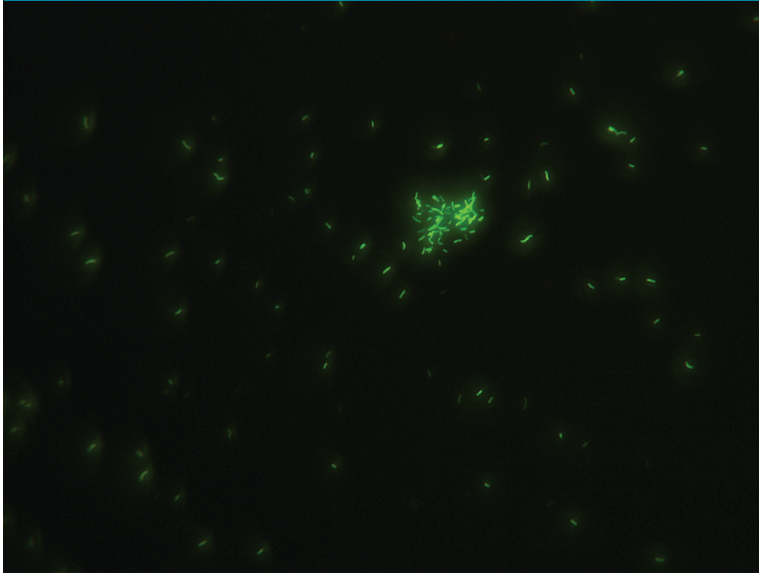
Examine the slide using the ParaLens Advance™ LED fluorescence microscope attachment, or other fluorescent microscope.

See reverse side for examples of AFB stained with F.A.S.T. reagents.



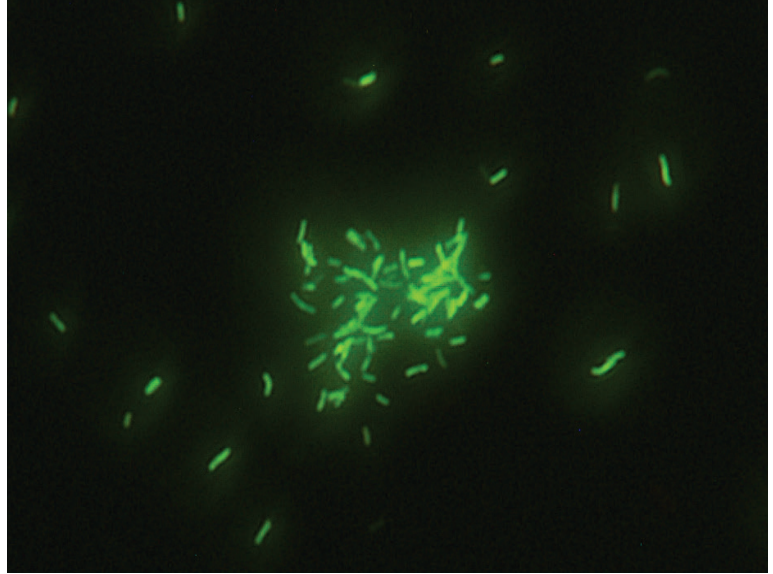
F.A.S.T. AFB Guide: Slide Review

Image 1



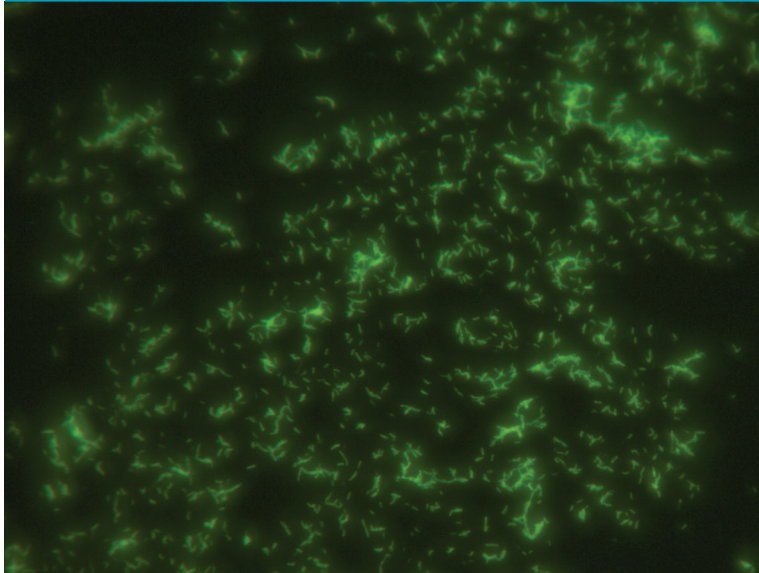
Mycobacterium tuberculosis, viewed at 400x magnification. A dark background helps to clearly observe the fluorescence of the AFB.

Image 2



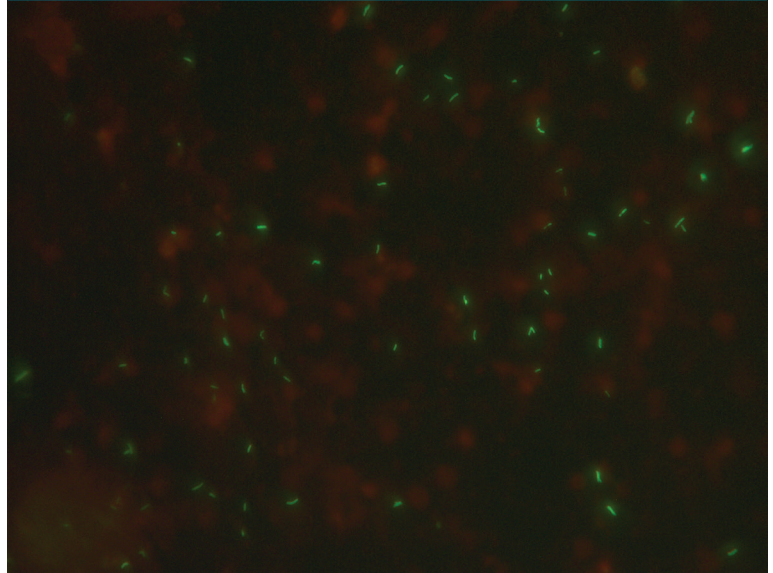
The clump of bacteria in the center is magnified at greater detail where single bacilli can be seen even clearer. (Original photo taken at 400x, digitally modified)

Image 3



Mycobacterial bacilli sometimes fluoresce at varying degrees, as seen in this picture. Note that there are single bacilli as well as clumped bacilli here. (400x)

Image 4



AFB appearing as a brilliant green against an orange/black background (possibly due to residual stain). While the AFB are clear, it is best to wash the slides completely so that the background remains a contrasting black color. (400x)

Note: For instructions on detecting AFB using SureFocus™ Microscope Slides, please consult the SureFocus Microscope Slide User Guide, also available from QBC Diagnostics.