

We've been using the Biolog Gen III for about 18 months and we love it! Because we commit to buying a certain quantity annually, our sales rep was able to get the price down where it is comparable (or sometimes less!) to commercial ID kits such as API, BBL Crystal, Remel RapID's, etc.

All of the technicians like to use the Biolog because there are no reagents to add and you don't have to look up a code to get an ID!

Another advantage of the Biolog is that you don't have to know if your Gram negative isolate is a glucose nonfermenter or an enteric when you set it up. In fact, you can set up the Biolog before you've even looked at your Gram stains for the day because it does it all... Corynes, Streps, Staphs, enterics, nonfermenters... We have different kits to do each of these, so the Biolog really simplifies things.

Finally, we're really excited about the ability to create a customizable database with the Biolog and Retrospect. Most commercial ID kits have human clinical databases and frequently don't have veterinary isolates represented. The Biolog has a large number of veterinary isolates in the database, as well as environmentals, which is what we usually need help in identifying anyway. We are currently sequencing our "unidentified" organisms and running Biolog. We'll be plugging in that data and creating our own database, so that when we encounter the organism again, it will (hopefully) be identified. We're also hoping to recognize "new" pathogens when we repeatedly isolate organisms that give us the same pattern. This will be really useful when we are working with Whitetail Deer and zoo/exotic animal specimens, which frequently contain novel organisms.

The people at Biolog are always so helpful when we have questions (especially Cody!). We'll be using Biolog for the foreseeable future!

Sonia

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