

H & E STAINING ON PARAFFIN SECTIONS

For neuronal counting experiments.

1. Fix fly heads overnight in 4% formalin.
2. Embed in paraffin.
3. Cut 4 micron sections. Dry at 42° overnight.
4. Deparaffinize and bring through ethanols to water (xylene x 2, 100% ethanol x 4, tap H₂O x 2).
5. Stain with Harris' hematoxylin – 10 minutes.
6. Rinse 3 x tap H₂O.
7. Differentiate in acid alcohol (1% hydrochloric acid in 70% alcohol) – 1 quick dip.
8. Rinse 3 x tap H₂O.
9. Blue in tap H₂O – 5 minutes or to desired color.
10. Rinse 3 x tap H₂O.
11. Stain with eosin (10% in 100% EtOH) – one quick dip or to desired color.
12. Rinse 2 x 100% EtOH.
13. Dehydrate through ethanol series and xylenes.
14. Mount with Permount.