

F-93 FORMIC ACID-SODIUM CITRATE METHOD

1. Place calcified specimen in large quantities of formic acid-sodium citrate solution until decalcification is complete. (Change solution daily for best results.)
Mix solution **Formic Acid, 50%** (F-93a) and **Sodium Citrate, 20%** (F-93b) in equal portions for use.
2. Wash in running water for 4-8 hours.
3. Dehydrate, clear and impregnate with paraffin or process as desired.

REMARKS: This technique gives better staining results than the nitric acid method since Formic acid-sodium citrate is less harsh on the cellular properties. Therefore, overexposure of tissue to this solution, after decalcification has been completed is possible with little loss of staining quality. This method has become the one of choice for all orbital decalcification including the globes.

REFERENCES:

Luna, L.G. (ed.) Manual of Histologic Staining Methods of the AFIP, 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill, N.Y. pg. 8, c1968