UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF BACTERIOLOGY
362 NOYES LABORATORY OF CHEMISTRY
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Dear Joshua,

What are the most suitable conditions for plaque formation by λ on EMB agar? Can it be obtained easily on a layer of surface-spread bacteria? I am interested in a method by which one can recognize colonies of a fermenting strain, whether they are lysogenic (plaque surrounded) or not, in a background of nonfermenting ones. Can you suggest which strains you would consider most suitable? I imagine there are a variety of nonfermenting strains ~~of the~~ sensitive to λ that could be used; one that would not "swamp out" single colonies of a nonlysogenic fermenter would be most suitable.

Let me know what you think; we may talk ~~again~~ about it in CSH.

Best regards,
Lu