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SYBR® Safe DNA gel stain has been specifically developed for reduced mutagenicity, making it safer than ethidium bromide for staining DNA in agarose or acrylamide gels. SYBR® Safe stain comes either as a concentrate or as a ready-to-use solution that can be used just like an ethidium bromide solution, and the detection sensitivity with SYBR® Safe stain is comparable to that obtained with ethidium bromide. DNA bands stained with SYBR® Safe DNA gel stain can be detected using a standard UV transilluminator, a visible-light transilluminator, or a laser-based scanner. The stain is also suitable for staining RNA in gels. Bound to nucleic acids, SYBR® Safe stain has fluorescence excitation maxima at 280 and 502 nm, and an emission maximum at 530 nm (Figure 1).

The agarose/SYBR® Safe stain mixture may be heated in the microwave. As with precasting gels with ethidium bromide, the mobility of nucleic acid fragments in the gel may be somewhat

