Usage Recommendation: This marker was not designed for precise quantification of ssRNA mass.

Note: Store at –70°C. For short term storage (< 1 week), ladder can be stored at −20°C.

Reagents Supplied with Ladders:
RNA Loading Dye, (2X)

Denaturing vs. Native Agarose Gels: It is common practice to electrophorese RNA on a fully denaturing agarose gel, such as one containing formaldehyde (1). However, in many cases it is possible to run RNA on a native agarose gel and obtain suitable results. In fact, it has been demonstrated that treatment of RNA samples in a denaturing buffer maintains the RNA molecules in a denatured state, during electrophoresis, for at least 3 hours (2,3). The use of native agarose gels eliminates problems associated with toxic chemicals and the difficulties encountered when staining and blotting formaldehyde gels.

Sample Preparation: The ssRNA Ladder is also compatible with formaldehyde-based loading buffers.

Method:
This method utilizes the RNA Loading Dye, (2X) provided, and samples should be run on a native gel prepared with 1X TBE. This method does not always denature RNA molecules completely.

1. Combine 2 µl of ssRNA Ladder with 8 µl of 2X RNA Loading Dye.
2. Incubate at 90°C for 2 minutes or 70°C for 10 minutes.
3. Immediately place it on ice for 1–2 minutes.
4. Load the entire sample on gel.
5. For best results, stain gel with SYBR Gold after electrophoresis. It is also possible to stain gel with ethidium bromide, however, the visibility of the bands is less intense than that of SYBR Gold staining.

Notes on Use:
Minimize repeated freeze-thaw cycles. It is best to aliquot the marker into single use portions.

To avoid ribonuclease contamination: wear gloves, use RNase-free water for gels and buffers, wash equipment with detergent and rinse thoroughly with RNase-free water.

(see other side)
References:


3. Sandra Cook, and Christina Marchetti, unpublished observations.