

Table 1 Effect of cations on transformation efficiency after freezing and thawing. Cells of *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* (*leu⁻*) were frozen in 0.6 M sorbitol with 10 mM chloride and 10 mM Hepes, pH 7.5. A cell concentration of 1×10^9 cells/ml was used for each transformation with 0.5 ng of pAL7. The electric pulse setting was held constant at 10.0 kV/cm for 25 μ F and 200 Ω . Data represent averages \pm SD for five independent experiments

Cation	Transformants/ μ g DNA
None	$1.4 \pm 0.3 \times 10^6$
Li	$1.5 \pm 0.2 \times 10^6$
Na	$1.3 \pm 0.4 \times 10^6$
K	$1.3 \pm 0.4 \times 10^6$
Mg	$1.5 \pm 0.6 \times 10^6$
Ca	$2.9 \pm 0.4 \times 10^6$