
Preface

Formidable progress in the field of recombinant gene expression has taken place since 2004, the date of publication of the previous edition of this book. In particular, the emergence of the “omics” technologies has revolutionized all areas of biology. In the industrial arena, *Escherichia coli*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, and insect cells continue to be the dominant production platforms of recombinant proteins. However, in the last few years plants and animals have grown in importance as viable sources of more complex proteins.

This third edition of *Recombinant Gene Expression* is a lot more than just an update of the previous edition. Although some of the authors that contributed in 2004 were also invited to participate in this new project, this volume contains brand new protocols and topics not covered before.

I am indebted to the experts in the field and their students and post-doctoral associates whose talent and experience is reflected in the outstanding quality of the chapters here included. I would like to thank Dr. Paulina Balbás, from whom I have learned a lot about managing a project like this, and two members of my laboratory, Austin Slaven and Gwendolyn Wilson who helped me edit the reference section of each chapter.

While organizing a book of such an extensive topic as gene expression, it was indispensable to pick and choose from the multitude of strategies, vectors, promoters, and so on, so the coverage of topics is far from exhaustive. Some expression systems were omitted because of size limitations and even within areas presented unavoidably; some research approaches were unevenly treated.

The information provided in *Recombinant Gene Expression*, is organized in sections by biological host: Bacteria, lower eukaryotes, fungi, plants and plant cells, and animals and animal cells, presenting one or two authoritative reviews and several protocol chapters in each section. Each chapter concludes with a section containing excellent notes where authors offer their valuable expertise of scientists and their personal views of strategy planning, as well as a variety of approaches, and alternatives that will surely be useful and inspiring to you, the reader.

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