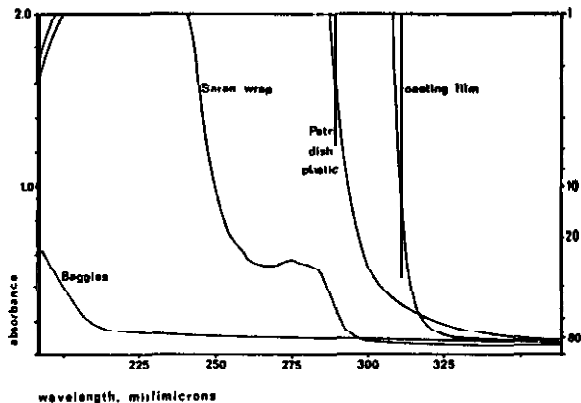


Griffiths, A. J. F. and B. Sivak. UV transmission

through various clear films in mutation experiments.



To reduce the risk of **contamination** in long, or student-operated UV exposures, it is desirable to use some form of cover **on** the irradiated **sample**. Traditionally quartz **has** been used for this purpose. This report indicates that some cheaper materials are **just as good**. The materials tested were: plastic Petri plates (from a/s Nokra plast, DK 4690, Naslev, Denmark); "Saran Wrap" (from Dow Chemicals, Ltd., 122 Arrow Road, Weston, Ontario); "Look Roasting Film" (from Look Film Associates, Scarborough, Ontario); and "Baggies" (from Colgate-Palmolive Co., Ltd., New York, N. Y.).

Strip of the **clear** materials from various sources were fitted into the sample **cuvette** of a Unicorn SP-800 UV spectrophotometer, so that the beam passed **at** right angles through one thickness. The behavior of the various films is shown in the Figure, in which the **base** line follows the **100% transmittance** line. Most of the commonly-used UV tubes (e.g., Hanovia BBA-45, Osram HNS 12) emit **at** 254 millimicrons. It can be seen that of those materials tested, **Baggies** provide the only material which will transmit most radiation of this **wavelength**:

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