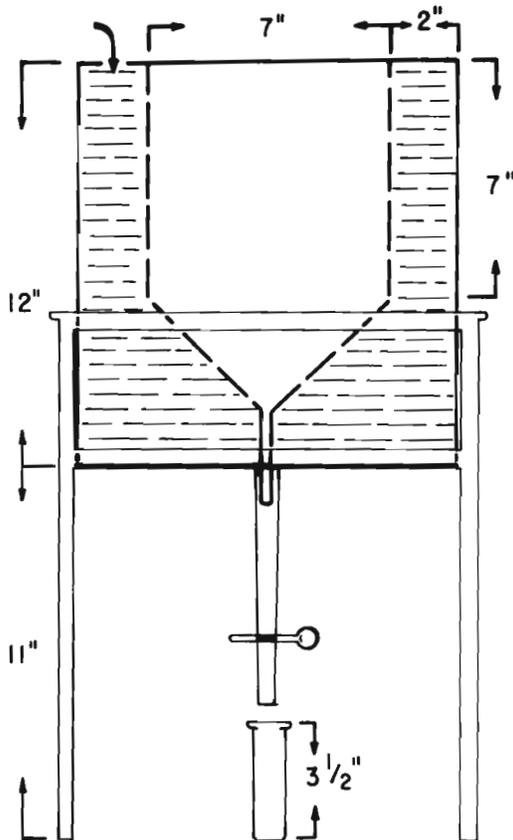


Félix, R. Programa de Genética y Radiobiología, Comisión Nacional de Energía Nuclear, México City, México. A food medium dispenser device for filling vials.



A very inexpensive to build device for rapid dispensing of food medium to vials, with complete control of the operator is described in the present technical note. The unit is waterjacketed to insure even heating which avoids the clogging of the delivery tube. The liquid medium is poured into the unit after filling the space between the double wall of the dispenser with hot water with the help of a funnel inserted through a hole in the top of the unit. It is not necessary to repeat this operation, as the unit can be refilled several times with food medium without renewing the hot water.

Flow is stopped by pressing the latex or rubber delivery tube with a Mohr pinchcock. The medium is quickly poured into the vials actioning the pinchcock with the right hand, at the same time the row of vials is moved along a track by pushing the first one in the row with the left hand.

Rarely the devlivery tube gets clogged, in such a case a thin glass rod pushed from above may be used to remove the plug through the outlet. Most of the dimentions of the apparatus shown in the figure are not critical because the temperature of the food medium is easily maintained by hot water in a waterjacketed unit. This low cost apparatus is easily constructed and useful when hundreds or thousands of vials are used in a Drosophila laboratory.

Diagram of the dispenser device.

The dispenser with a row of vials on a track during the filling operation

