

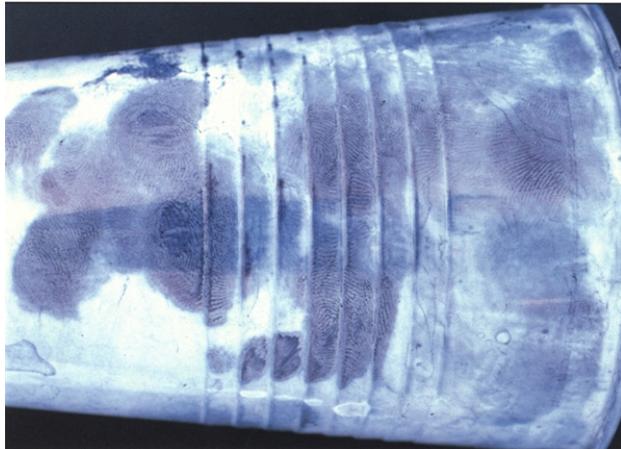
	<b>LPU-PM 3.23 Sudan Black</b>	
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	Revision #: 1	Issued Date: 12/06/2017
	Document Manager: Tracee McIntosh	Approved By: Jeffrey Nye

## 3.23 Sudan Black

### 3.23.1 Introduction

Sudan black is a dye, which stains fatty components of sebaceous sweat to produce a blue-black image. The formulation contains solid particles of dye as well as dye in solution. It is less sensitive than some other processes for latent fingerprint detection, but is of particular use on surfaces which are contaminated with, e.g. grease, foodstuffs or dried deposits of soft drinks. It will also enhance superglue developed fingerprints.

*Sudan black on a disposable plastic cup*



### 3.23.2 Preparation of Solution

- Weigh out 15 grams of solvent Black 3. Place in a clean 2 liter glass beaker.
- Measure out 1 liter of ethanol. Add to the beaker. Stir with a plastic stirring rod.
- Measure out 500 milliliters of distilled water. Add to the beaker. Stir with a plastic stirring rod. A black working solution will be produced.
- Transfer working solution to a clean, dry, labeled, glass bottle with a well-fitting, screw top.

### 3.23.3 Processing Method

- Shake container of working solution and pour sufficient into a clean, dry, dish to treat article.
- Immerse article in working solution or float on surface for 2 minutes. Use print forceps to handle articles.
- Rinse article under slowly running, cold tap water until excess dye has been removed from the background.
- Hang article up to dry at room temperature. Heating is not recommended.
- Photograph useful fingerprints.

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### **3.23.4 Examination and Photography**

The images produced by Sudan Black are blue-black in color. Some fingerprints develop as very images, which may require high contrast film. Color filtration is generally ineffective in improving contrast. In some cases the photographic contrast of Sudan Black developed fingerprints can be improved by fluorescence examination. It may be possible to excite background fluorescence so that the fingerprints appear dark against a light background.

### **3.23.5 References**

- <http://www.cbdi.ai.org/Reagents/sudan.html>