

## COLLECTION AND STAGING OF CHICK EMBRYOS

- Surgical material should be sterilized in UV light.
- Eggs are sprayed with 70% ethanol and opened on the pointed side.
- Embryos are removed from the egg by cutting around the embryo with scissors, collecting the embryo with a spoon and are either placed in:
  - (1) sterile complete PBS in a sterile Petri dish (for immunohistochemistry) **OR**
  - (2) sterile PBS in a sterile Petri dish (for RNA).
- The embryos are then transferred to a UV sterilized Petri dish with a black bottom and staged using the table by Hamburger and Hamilton (1951).
- Embryos are then either fixed (for inclusion in gelatin for cryosectioning) or processed for RNA isolation.