



DYEING AND PAINTING WITH NATURE:
THE CHEMISTRY OF COCHINEAL
MAKING OF LAKE PIGMENT

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Genspace, New York

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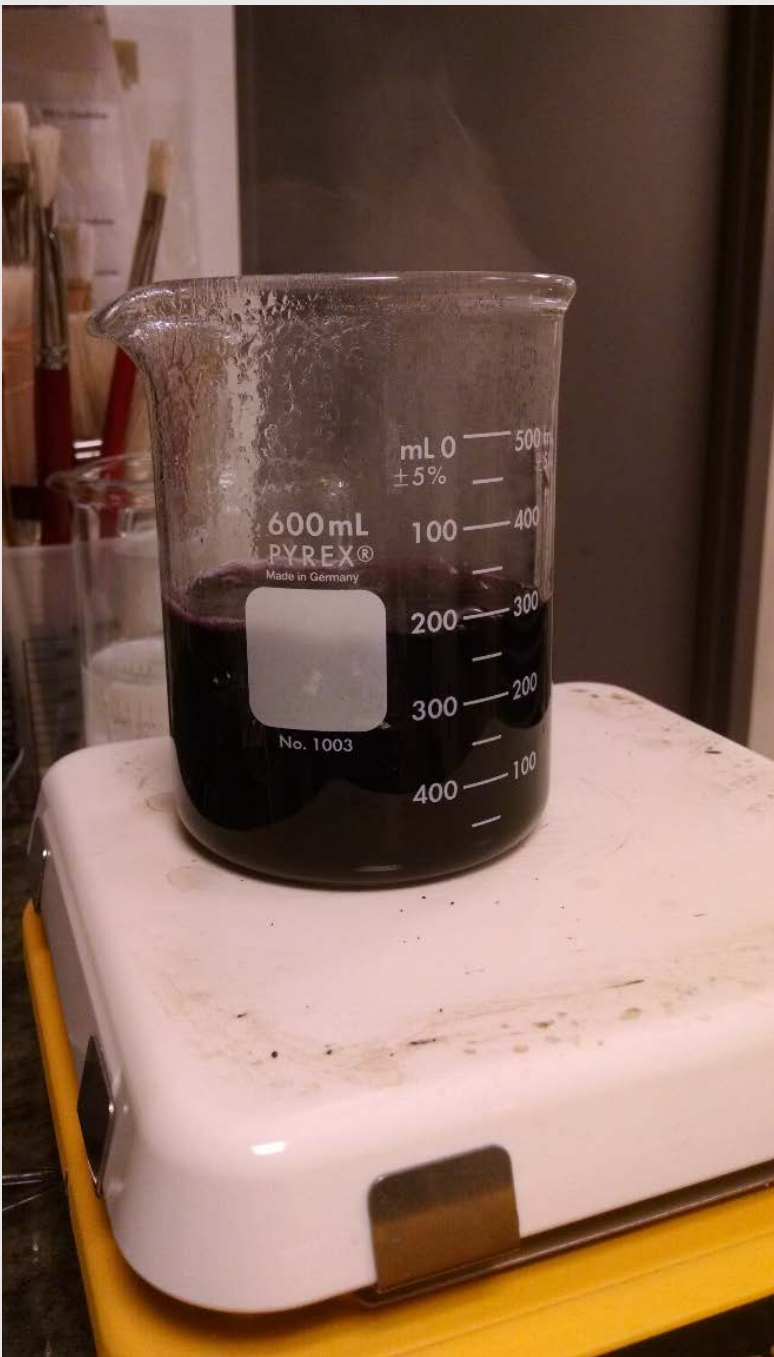
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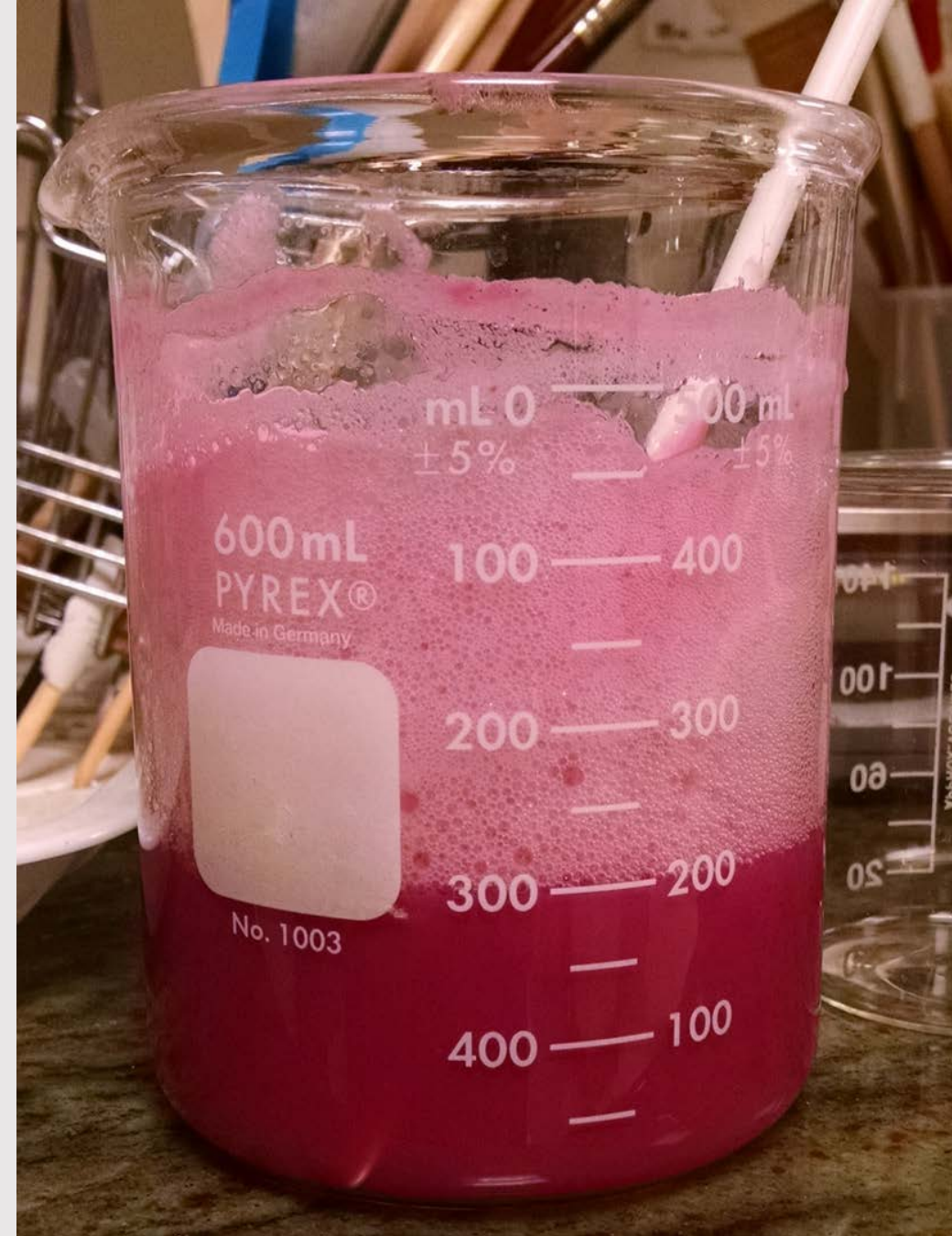
Cochineal (ground)



Add potash or alum
(depending on recipe)
Boil with water



With potash and potash alum



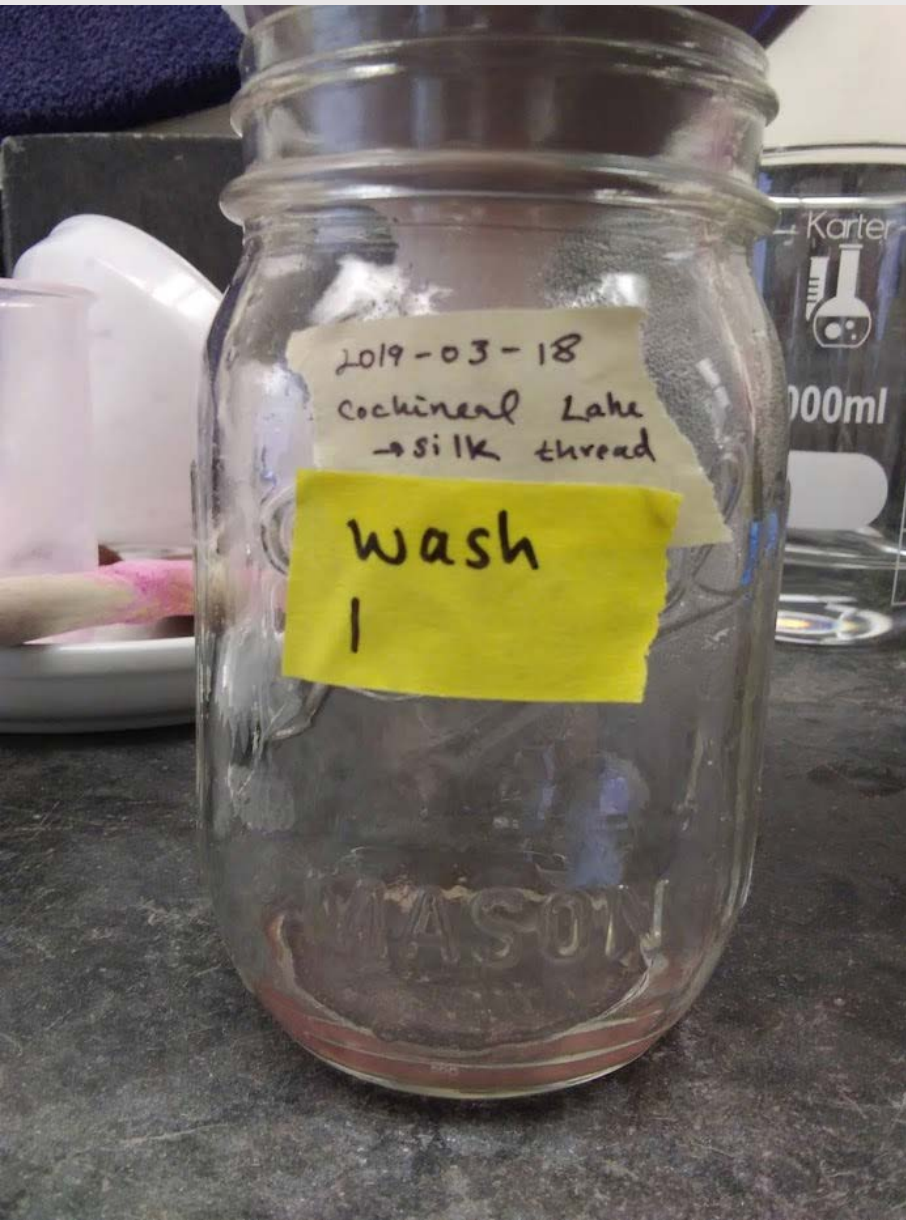
Cochineal solution,
settled



Filtering

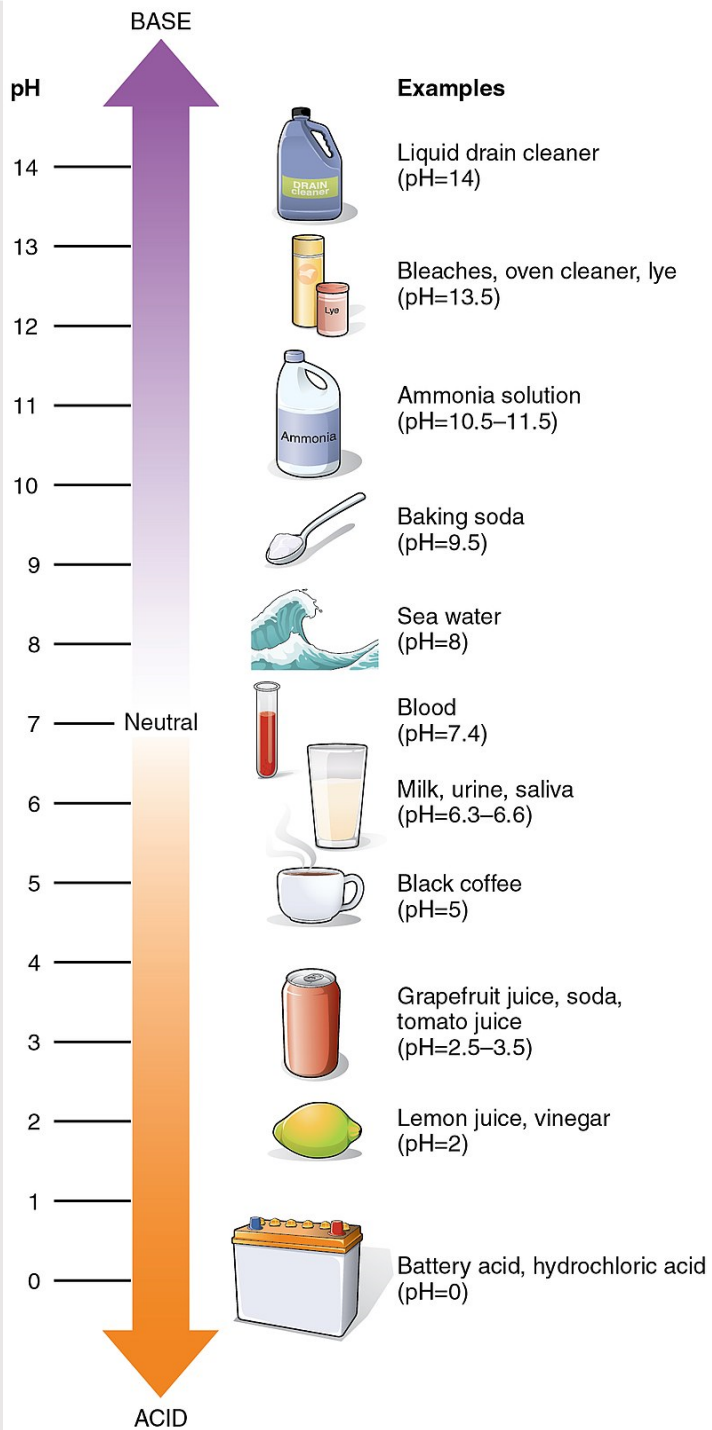


Wash the pigment with water



Leave to dry





Overview of pH

pH is a numerical scale from 0 to 14 that describes the relative acidity or alkalinity of a solution

ACID

Donates a hydron (proton or hydrogen ion H^+)

BASE/ALKALI

Releases hydroxide (OH^-) ions.

Many times the terms “base” and “alkali” (or basic and alkaline) are used interchangeably.

More precisely, an alkali is a base that can be dissolved in water.

