http://xray.bmc.uu.se/~terese/crystallization/library.html

Welcome to the pictorial library of crystallization drop phenomena.

Last update: 28 November 2001 by Terese Bergfors, *Uppsala University, Uppsala Sweden*

Please send me your comments about this "library. Did you find it useful? Anything unclear or missing? Do you have some pictures you want me to include? Send me an e-mail terese@alpha2.bmc.uu.se.

Have you ever looked in the microscope and ask yourself things like:

"What IS this stuff in my drop?"

"What does phase separation look like?"

"Is this what people call a spherulite?"

The pictorial library of crystallization drop gives you the answers to these questions and more in the form of 7 guided tutorials. I also recommend this related site for more pictures of crystallization drop phenomena.

Tutorial 1. Appearances can be deceiving!	The first thing you should learn is that the appearance (habit, morphology, etc.) of your crystal is NOT what is important.
Tutorial 2. Types of	How do I tell a "good" precipitate from a "bad" precipitate?

precipitates.	
Tutorial 3. Between precipitates and crystals.	Click on this tutorial to learn what **spherulites, oils, phase separation,** and **gels** look like in the drops. These, like crystals and precpitates, are **solid phases** of protein. If you get any of these phenomena in your drop, you can be close to the right conditions for obtaining crystals. Therefore it is important to be able to recognize these phenomena when you see them.
Tutorial 4. Crystals.	Are needles better than plates? How do I get from long, thin crystals to big fat ones? Click on this tutorial.
Tutorial 5. Seeding.	Examples of macroseeding, streakseeding, microseeding. When to use which method.
Tutorial 6. Ostwald ripening	
Tutorial 7. Example of an optimization experiment	Once you get crystals in the initial screen, they will probably have to be optimized. For an example of an optimization screen