Drawing TLC plates in ChemBioDraw 13.0 (or earlier versions)

1. Click on the “Chromatography Tools” icon in the toolbar on the left. Two new icons will appear:

2. Choose the icon on the left, then click in the blank document. A window will appear that asks you to enter the number of lanes present in this TLC plate:
3. Enter the number and hit OK (I’ll stick with 3 for this example). A TLC plate with three lanes will appear. Right click on one of the lanes, and the following box will appear. Choose “Set Rf”:

4. A new dialog box will open, where you can enter in the Rf for that lane. I’ll use 0.85 for this example. The plate will now look like this:
5. To add an additional spot, right click on the lane again, and you will get the following dialog box. Choose “Add Spot” from the new dialog box:

6. To set the Rf of each spot, you can click on the spot and drag it to the appropriate point on the plate. The Rf value will appear as long as you are still holding on to the spot (note, the arrow didn’t show up in the screen shot, but it’s there).