



Lecithin Agar

M1325

Lecithin Agar is recommended for detection of bacterial contamination of surfaces in unprotected and protected areas.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Casein enzymic hydrolysate	15.000
Papaic digest of soyabean meal	5.000
Sodium chloride	5.000
Lecithin	0.700
Polysorbate 80	5.000
Sodium thiosulphate	1.000
L-Histidine	1.000
Agar	20.500
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.3±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 53.2 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Mix well and pour in sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

This medium was originally recommended by APHA for use in microbial testing of water (1). Lecithin and polysorbate 80 were added to this medium by Weber and Black as a result of their research of the relative efficiencies of inhibitors for quaternary ammonium compounds (2). This medium is recommended for screening cosmetic products for microbial contamination.

In this medium, papaic digest of soyabean meal and casein enzymic hydrolysate provide nitrogenous compounds, carbon, sulphur and trace ingredients. Lecithin neutralizes quaternary ammonium compounds and polysorbate 80 is added to nullify phenolic compounds, hexachlorophene, formalin and alongwith lecithin neutralizes ethyl alcohol (3). Histidine acts as a reducing agent, Sodium thiosulphate neutralizes mercurial, halogens, aldehydes etc.

Quality Control

Appearance

Cream to yellow coloured homogeneous free flowing powder

Gelling

Firm, comparable with 2.05% Agar gel.

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Yellow coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

Reaction

Reaction of 5.32% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.3±0.2

pH

7.10-7.50

Cultural Response

M1325: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 18-24 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth
Cultural Response		
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	50-100	luxuriant
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	50-100	luxuriant

Storage and Shelf Life

Store dehydrated powder and the prepared medium at 2-8° C in tightly closed container . Use before expiry date on the label.

Reference

- 1.APHA, 1960, Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 11th ed., American Public Health Association, New York.
- 2.Weber and Black, 1948, Soap Sanitary Chem., 24:134.
- 3.Favero (Chm.), 1967, A State of the Art Report, Biological Contamination Control Committee, American Association for Contamination Control.

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