



Azospirillum Medium w/o Agar (Twin Pack)

M1720

Azospirillum Medium w/o agar is used for cultivation of *Azospirillum* species.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Part A:	-
Malic acid	5.000
Dipotassium phosphate	0.500
Ferrous sulphate	0.500
Manganese sulphate	0.010
Magnesium sulphate	0.200
Sodium chloride	0.100
Bromo thymol blue	0.002
Sodium molybdate	0.002
Calcium chloride	0.020
Part B:	-
Potassium hydroxide	4.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	6.8±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 6.33 grams in 950 ml distilled water. Heat if necessary to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to room temperature and slowly add 50 ml of sterile Part B prepared by adding 1.30 grams -1.50 grams of Potassium hydroxide to 50 ml of sterile distilled water.

Principle And Interpretation

Azospirilla are generally gram-negative rods which are motile by means of a single flagellum. *Azospirilla* are also capable of fixing nitrogen (1). The cells of *Azospirillum* remain in association with the roots and fix part of the atmospheric nitrogen. *Azospirillum* species may be isolated from rhizosphere biofilms associated with the roots of various grasses, cereals, and tuber plants. Their isolation is based on the fact that these organisms can grow in concentrations of nitrogen too low to support growth of most microorganisms. *Azospirillum* cultures are useful for the cereals and cash crops viz. wheat, paddy, bajra, jowar, maize, mustard, cotton, cumin, banana, sugarcane, tobacco, castor, vegetables etc., as well as horticultural crops. Both in greenhouse and in field trials, several strains of *Azospirillum* have been shown to exert beneficial effects on plant growth and crop yields, under various soil and climatic conditions, and are thus qualified as Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) (2).

This medium contains malic acid which serves as the prime carbon source. *Azospirillum* species grow well in presence of malic acid and are not overgrown by other nitrogen fixers. Dipotassium phosphate provides buffering effect. Necessary trace elements like ferrous sulphate, manganese sulphate, sodium molybdate supports growth of *Azospirillum* species. Divalent salts like calcium and magnesium helps metabolism of cells. Sodium chloride helps to maintain osmotic balance of cell.

Quality Control

Appearance

Part A : Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder Part B :White to cream pellets

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light yellow coloured clear to slightly opalescent solution

Reaction

Reaction of 0.63% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 6.8±0.2

pH

6.60-7.00

Cultural Response

Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 25-30°C for upto 8 days .

Cultural Response

Organism	Growth
Cultural Response <i>Azospirillum brasilense</i> ATCC 29710	luxuriant

Storage and Shelf Life

Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 2 – 8°C. Use before expiry date on the label.

Reference

1. Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology (1984), Vol. 1, Pg. 100-103. Kreig NR and Holt JG (eds.), Williams and Wilkins, London.
2. Genoscope, 15 Jan 2008.

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