



Dixon's Agar (Twin Pack)

M1984

For primary isolation and cultivation of *Malassezia furfur*

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Part A	-
Malt extract	36.000
Peptone	36.000
Ox-bile Dessicated	20.000
Agar	14.500
Part B	-
Tween 40	10.000
Glycerol mono-oleate	5.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	6.0±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 15ml of fluid Part B in 1000 ml distilled/purified water. Add 106.5 grams of Part A. Mix well and heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates or dispense into tubes for slants.

Principle And Interpretation

Media based on malt extract is appreciated by many microbiologists due to their richness and nutrient balance especially for the cultivation of fastidious microorganisms. With acidic pH, they are used for the isolation, cultivation and maintenance of yeast and moulds. *M. furfur* is a lipophilic yeast, therefore in vitro growth must be stimulated by natural oils or other fatty substances.

Malt extract and Peptone provides nitrogenous compounds. low pH favours fungal growth and inhibits contaminating bacteria from test samples (1).

Some pathogenic fungi may produce infective spores which are easily dispersed in air, so examination should be carried out in safety cabinet. For heavily contaminated samples, the plate must be supplemented with inhibitory agents for inhibiting bacterial growth with lower pH.

Quality Control

Appearance

Part A : Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder Part B: Colourless to pale yellow viscous solution

Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.45% Agar gel.

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Brownish yellow coloured, opalescent gel with scum forms in Petri plates

Reaction

Reaction of 10.65% w/v aqueous solution of Part A and 1.5% v/v of Part B at 25°C. pH : 6.0±0.2

pH

5.80-6.20

Cultural Response

Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 40-48 hours.

Cultural Response

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery
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Cultural Response

<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 10231	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%
<i>Candida glabrata</i> ATCC 15126	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%
<i>Candida krusei</i> ATCC 24408	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%
<i>Candida tropicalis</i> ATCC 750	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%
<i>Malassezia furfur</i> ATCC 14521	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%

Storage and Shelf Life

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

Reference

1. Murray PR, Baron EJ, Tenover JC, Tenover FC (editors) 2003, Manual of clinical Microbiology, 8th ed., ASM, Washington, D.C.

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