

# **Technical Data**

# **Trichophyton Agar No.6**

**M536** 

Trichophyton Agar No.6 is used for differentiation of *Trichophyton* species.

### Composition\*\*

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Ammonium nitrate	1.500
Dextrose	40.000
Monopotassium dihydrogen phosphate	1.800
Magnesium sulphate	0.100
Agar	15.000
Final pH ( at 25°C)	$6.8 \pm 0.2$

<sup>\*\*</sup>Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

# **Directions**

Suspend 58.4 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Dispense in test tubes. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Allow the tubed medium to cool in a slanted position.

# **Principle And Interpretation**

Nutritional tests were originally described by George and Camp (2) as an aid in the routine identification of *Trichophyton* species that seldom produce conidia or that resemble each other morphologically (2). Certain species have distinctive nutritional requirements, whereas others do not.

The method employs a casein basal medium that is vitamin-free (Trichophyton Agar-1, M531) to which different vitamins are added i.e. inositol (Trichophyton Agar-2, M532), thiamine and inositol (Trichophyton Agar-3, M533), thiamine (Trichophyton Agar-4) (M534) and nicotinic acid (Trichophyton Agar-5) (M535). The method also employs an ammonium nitrate basal medium (Trichophyton Agar-6, M536) to which histidine is added (Trichophyton Agar-7, M152) (1). The various additives added help to determine the specific vitamin and amino acid requirements of the isolates.

The *Trichophyton* fungi are closely related to the genus *Microsporum*. *Microsporum* fungi are also saprophytic, parasitic and pathogenic in the skin, hair and nails of man and other animals. Trichophyton Agar-6 medium is also used for cultivating *Microsporum* species especially *Microsporum gallinae* which grow well at 37°C within 48 hours.

Nutritional requirements are determined by inoculating a control medium and a medium enriched with a specific vitamin or amino acid with *Trichophyton* isolates that have been presumptively identified by gross colony characteristics and microscopic morphology (1, 2, 3-6). Moderate to heavy growth in the vitamin- or amino acid-enriched medium compared to little or no growth in the basal medium indicates that the isolate requires that nutrient.

# **Quality Control**

# **Appearance**

White to light yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

#### Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

### Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light amber coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in tubes as slants

#### Reaction

Reaction of 5.84% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH: 6.8±0.2

#### рH

6.60-7.00

#### **Cultural Response**

M536: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 25-30°C for 1 week.

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Organism Growth

**Cultural Response** 

*Microsporum gallinae ATCC* good-luxuriant 12108

Trichophyton megninii inhibited

ATCC 12106

# **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

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- 3. Roberts G. D., 1985, In Washington (Ed.), Laboratory Procedures in Clinical Microbiology, 2nd Ed., Springer- Verlag, New York, N.Y.
- 4. Weitzman I., Rosenthal S. A. and Silva-Hutner M., 1988, In Wentworth (Eds.), Diagnostic Procedures for Mycotic and Parasitic Infections, 7th Ed., American Public Health Association, Washington, D.C.
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Revision: 1 / 2011

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