Slanetz and Bartley Medium

M612

Intended Use

Recommended for detection and enumeration of faecal Streptococci by membrane filtration technique.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Tryptose	20.000
Yeast extract	5.000
Dextrose (Glucose)	2.000
Disodium hydrogen phosphate	4.000
Sodium azide	0.400
2,3,5-Triphenyl tetrazolium chloride	0.100
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.2±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 46.5 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE OR OVERHEAT. Excessive heating is detrimental. Cool to 45-50°C. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

Slanetz and Bartley Medium was originally devised by Slanetz and Bartley (1) for the detection and enumeration of Enterococci by membrane filtration technique. It can be also used as a direct plating medium (2, 3). The medium is highly selective for Enterococci.

Tryptose and yeast extract in the medium provide the necessary nitrogen, carbon, vitamins and minerals required for the growth of organisms. Sodium azide has inhibitory effect on gram-negative organisms. Triphenyl Tetrazolium Chloride is reduced to the insoluble formazan inside the bacterial cell forming dark red-coloured colonies. When the medium is incubated at higher temperature (44-45°C), all red or maroon colonies can be considered as presumptive Enterococci (4, 5).

The Department of Health (6) has recommended this medium to be used for enumeration of Enterococci in water supplies. Water is filtered through a membrane filter which is then placed on the surface of the Slanetz and Bartley Medium plates and incubated at 35°C for 4 hours and then at 44-45°C for 44-48 hours. Red or maroon colonies are counted as Enterococci. The preliminary incubation at 35°C helps for the recovery of stressed organisms. Not all the species reduce TTC, hence pale colonies also should be considered.

Food samples are homogenized and so diluted with physiological saline to give 15-150 colonies on each Petri plate. Homogenates or dilutions are spread on agar surface and incubated at 35°C for 48 hours. Pink or dark red colonies with a narrow whitish border are counted (3).

Type of specimen

Food ; Water samples

Specimen Collection and Handling:

For food samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection and processing as per guidelines (7).
For water samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection, processing as per guidelines and local standards(3).
After use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding.

Warning and Precautions :

Read the label before opening the container. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/ face protection. Follow good microbiological lab practices while handling specimens and culture. Standard precautions as per established guidleines should be followed while handling specimens. Saftey guidelines may be referred in individual safety data sheets

Limitations :

Further biochemical testing is required for identification of species.

Performance and Evaluation

Performance of the medium is expected when used as per the direction on the label within the expiry period when stored at recommended temperature.

Quality Control

Appearance

Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light yellow coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

Reaction

Reaction of 4.65% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.2±0.2

pH

7.00-7.40

Cultural Response

Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 44-45°C for 44-48 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery	Colour of colony
Enterococcus faecalis ATCC 29212 (00087)*	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%	red or maroon
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922 (00013)*	>=10^3	inhibited	0%	

Key: (*) Corresponding WDCM numbers

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 10-30°C in a tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 2-8°C. Use before expiry date on the label. On opening, product should be properly stored dry, after tightly capping the bottle inorder to prevent lump formation due to the hygroscopic nature of the product. Improper storage of the product may lead to lump formation. Store in dry ventilated area protected from extremes of temperature and sources of ignition Seal the container tightly after use. Use before expiry date on the label.
Product performance is best if used within stated expiry period.

Disposal

User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Follow established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and material that comes into contact with clinical sample must be decontaminated and disposed of in accordance with current laboratory techniques (9,10).

Reference

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5. Mead G.C., 1966, Proc. Soc. Wat. Treat. Exam., 15:207.
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7. Salfinger Y., and Tortorello M.L. Fifth (Ed.), 2015, Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods, 5th Ed., American Public Health Association, Washington, D.C.
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10. Jorgensen,J.H., Pfaller , M.A., Carroll, K.C., Funke, G., Landry, M.L., Richter, S.S and Warnock., D.W. (2015) Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 11th Edition. Vol. 1.

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