



## **Emerson Agar**

## **M325**

Emerson Agar is used for isolation and cultivation of Actinomycetaceae , Streptomycetaceae , fungi and moulds.

Composition**	
Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Beef extract	4.000
Yeast extract	1.000
Peptic digest of animal tissue	4.000
Dextrose	10.000
Sodium chloride	2.500
Agar	20.000
Final pH ( at 25°C)	7.0±0.2

\*\*Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

## Directions

Suspend 41.5 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Add 0.05 grams / litre cycloheximide, if desired. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

## **Principle And Interpretation**

Emerson Agar was originally formulated by Emerson et al (1) and is used for the cultivation of moulds and bacterial species resembling moulds (3). This medium was further modified by Gottlieb et al (2) and is used for screening potent antibiotic-producing organisms (4). In their study, they stored *Streptomyces* in soil for long time and transferred them as needed, to slants of Emerson Agar. The slant cultures were incubated for 3-7 days. The spores were gently scraped from the cultures surface to form a spore inoculum.

Yeast extract provides a source of trace elements, vitamins and amino acids. For the selective isolation of *Streptomyces* species, cycloheximide is incorporated in the medium, which limits the growth of moulds. This medium is also used for routine cultivation and maintenance of pure cultures.

## **Quality Control**

### Appearance

Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder **Gelling** Firm, comparable with 2.0% agar gel.

## Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light amber coloured, clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

#### Reaction

Reaction of 4.15% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.0±0.2

**pH** 6.80-7.20

### **Cultural Response**

Organism	Growth
*Aspergillus brasiliensis	luxuriant
ATCC 16404 Saccharomyces cerevisiae	luxuriant
ATCC 9763 Streptomyces albus subsp	luxuriant
albus ATCC 3004	

Streptomyces lavendulaeluxuriantATCC 8664Streptomyces achromogenesluxuriantATCC 12767Streptomycesstreptomyces

\*Key: Formerly known as Aspergillus niger

#### **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. Emerson R. L., Whiffen A. J., Bohonos M. and DeBoer C., 1946, J. Bacteriol., 52:357.

- 2. Gottlieb D., Bhattacharya P. K., Anderson H. W. and Carter H. E., 1948, J. Bacteriol., 55:409.
- 3. Haynes W. C., Wickerham L. J. and Hesseltine C. W., 1955, Appl. Microbiol., 3:361.
- 4. Schmitz H. and Woodside R., 1955, Antibiot. Chemother., 5:652.

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