



M2 Agar

M858

M2 Agar is a semi synthetic culture medium used as a general purpose plate count agar.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Yeast extract	5.000
Dextrose	10.000
Sodium chloride	10.000
Monopotassium phosphate	0.100
Magnesium sulphate	0.050
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.1±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 40.15 grams in 1000 ml distilled water containing 132 ml glycerine. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes.

Principle And Interpretation

Nutrient media are basic culture media used for maintaining microorganisms, cultivating fastidious organisms(1, 2). Plate Count Agar is recommended for the plate count of microorganisms in food, dairy products, water and waste water. M2 Agar is suitable for determining bacterial count from sterile rooms.

Yeast extract provides a source of trace elements, vitamins and amino acids. Dextrose is the source of carbohydrate. Monopotassium phosphate buffers the media. Magnesium sulphate is a source of divalent cations. Sodium chloride is an essential ion and helps in maintaining the osmotic balance of the medium. Agar is the solidifying agent.

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 amber coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

Reaction

Reaction of 4.015% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.1±0.2

pH

6.90-7.30

Cultural Response

M858: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 18-24 hours.

Organism

Growth

Saccharomyces cerevisiae
ATCC 9763

good-luxuriant

Escherichia coli ATCC
25922

good-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. Lapage S., Shelton J. and Mitchell T., 1970, Methods in Microbiology', Norris J. and Ribbons D., (Eds.), Vol. 3A, Academic Press, London.
2. MacFaddin J. F., 2000, Biochemical Tests for Identification of Medical Bacteria, 3rd Ed., Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore.

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