Technical Information

FDA Agar (Extract Agar)

Product Code: DM 1236

Application: - FDA Agar (Extract Agar) is recommended for general cultivation of bacteria as well as routine testing of disinfectants and antiseptics.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Peptic digest of animal tissue	10.000
Beef extract	5.000
Sodium chloride	5.000
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.3±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Principle & Interpretation

FDA Agar is used for general cultivation of bacteria as well as for routine testing of antiseptics and disinfectants. FDA Agar is also known as AATCC bacteriostasis agar where AATCC stands for American Association of Textile Chemists and Colourists (1). FDA agar is the formulation specified by Food and Drug Administration, U.S.A. and also by Association of Analytical Chemists (AOAC) (1, 2). It is used for detecting antibacterial activity of fabrics. FDA agar is a relatively simple formulation. Beef extract and peptic digest of animal tissue provide the nutrients required for microbial growth. Sodium chloride maintains osmotic equilibrium.

Methodology

Suspend 35 grams of dehydrated media powder in 1000 ml distilled water. Mix thoroughly & heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes.

Quality Control

Appearance
Off white to yellow coloured homogeneous free flowing powder

Gelling
Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

Colour and Clarity
Amber coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates.

Reaction
Reaction of 3.5% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.3±0.2

pH Range
7.10-7.50

Cultural Response
DM 1236: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 18-24 hours.

Cultural Response

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=70%
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 25923	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=70%
Salmonella Typhi ATCC 6539	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=70%

Storage and Shelf Life

Dried Media: Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 2 - 8°C.Use before expiry date on the label.
Prepared Media: 2-8° in sealable plastic bags for 2-5 days.

Further Reading

1. Technical Manual of AATCC, Vol. 61, 1985-86, AATCC, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
2. Williams (Ed.), 1984, Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC, 14th ed. AOAC, Washington, D.C.

Disclaimer :

- User must ensure suitability of the product(s) in their application prior to use.
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