

Technical Information

MRS Broth, Modified (Lactobacillus Heteroferm Screen Broth)

Product Code: DM 2164

Application: - Modified MRS Broth is recommended for the isolation and cultivation of *Lactobacillus* species from salad dressings.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Dextrose	20.000
Proteose peptone	10.000
Yeast extract	5.000
Sodium acetate	5.000
2-Phenylethyl alcohol	3.000
Ammonium citrate	2.000
Dipotassium phosphate	2.000
Magnesium sulphate	0.100
Manganese sulphate	0.050
Bromocresol green	0.040
Cycloheximide	0.004
Final pH (at 25°C)	4.3±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Principle & Interpretation

Mayonnise, cooked starch-based dressings resembling mayonnise and pourable dressings are the types of salad dressings available. Microorganisms in salad dressings come from the ingredients from manufacturing equipments and from air. The microflora causing salad dressing to spoil seems quite restricted and consists of few species of *Lactobacillus*, *Saccharomyces* and *Zygosaccharomyces*. MRS Broth, Modified (Lactobacillus Heteroferm Screen Broth) recommended by APHA (1), is used for the isolation and cultivation of *Lactobacillus* species from salad dressings (2). MRS Broth, Modified are the modification of MRS medium of deMan et al (3).

Proteose peptone and dextrose provide nitrogen, carbon and other elements essential for the growth of Lactobacilli. Polysorbate 80 a mixture of oleic esters, supplies fatty acids required by Lactobacilli. Ammonium citrate, sodium acetate, 2-phenylethyl alcohol and cycloheximide inhibit gram-negative organisms, moulds and certain gram-positive bacteria. Certain yeasts are also suppressed because of presence of cycloheximide. Bromocresol green is the pH indicator, which under acidic conditions, changes colour from green to yellow.

Inoculate 1 ml of 1:10 dilutions of the dressing sample into three MRS Broth, Modified tubes. Incubate at 32°C for 72 hours ± 2 hours. Positive tubes have trapped CO₂ in the Durhams tubes or bubbles of CO₂ clinging to the inside of the tube and a colour change from green to yellow indicating acid production. These presumptive cultures can be confirmed by streaking on MRS Agar, Modified (DM2163) plates.

Methodology

Suspend 47.2 grams of dehydrated powder media in 1000 ml distilled water containing 1 ml polysorbate 80. Mix thoroughly and dispense in tubes containing inverted Durhams tubes. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. If necessary, adjust the pH with glacial acetic acid after sterilization.

Warning: Cycloheximide is very toxic. Avoid skin contact or aerosol formation and inhalation.

Quality Control

Appearance

Light yellow to bluish grey homogeneous free flowing powder

Colour and Clarity

Green coloured clear to slightly opalescent solution in tubes

Reaction

Reaction of 4.72% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 4.3±0.2

pH Range

4.10-4.50

Cultural Response

DM2164: Cultural characteristics observed in presence of 5-10% Carbon dioxide (CO₂), after an incubation at 35-37°C for up to 3 days.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth
<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> ATCC 4356	50-100	luxuriant
<i>Lactobacillus fermentum</i> ATCC 9338	50-100	luxuriant
<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> ATCC 8014	50-100	luxuriant
<i>Lactobacillus casei</i> ATCC 9595	50-100	luxuriant

Storage and Shelf Life

Dried Media: Store below 8°C 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. Vanderzant C. and Splittstoesser D. F., (Eds.), 1992, Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods, 3rd Ed., APHA, Washington, D.C.
2. Smittle R. B. and Flowers R. M., 1982, J. Food Protection, 45:977.
3. DeMan J. D., Rogosa M. and Sharpe M. E., 1960, J. Appl. Bacteriol.,23:130.

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