

Technical Information

China Blue Lactose Agar

Product Code: DM 1580

Application: - China Blue Lactose Agar is a standard, non-inhibitory medium for the differentiation and enumeration of bacteria in milk

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Peptic digest of animal tissue	5.000
Beef extract	3.000
Lactose	10.000
Sodium chloride	5.000
China blue	0.300
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.0±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Principle & Interpretation

Raw milk after leaving the udder of healthy animals normally contains very low numbers of microorganisms. Subsequently, it may become contaminated with microorganisms from the skin of the cow, the environment, and unclean milking system (1). Gram-positive cocci are usually present as normal flora of raw milk (2). Raw milk may get contaminated with organism associated with foodborne illness through infected animals, milking personnel or the environment. The predominant bacteria in pasteurized milk are members of coliform group⁽³⁾. China Blue Lactose Agar originally formulated by Brandl and Sobeck-skal⁽⁴⁾ is a standard non-inhibitory medium used for the differentiation of lactose fermenters from the non-lactose fermenters in milk. The medium does not contain any inhibitory substances therefore all the organisms present in milk sample grow luxuriantly on this medium.

Peptic digest of animal tissue and beef extract are the sources of carbon, nitrogen and essential growth nutrients. Lactose serves as a source of energy by being the fermentable carbohydrate. Sodium chloride helps to maintain the osmotic equilibrium of the medium. China blue is the pH indicator that changes from colourless to blue due to degradation of lactose to acid, thus differentiating lactose-fermenters from non-fermenters.

Methodology

Suspend 38.3 grams of powder media in 1000 ml distilled water. Shake well & heat to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (12 1°C) for 15 minutes. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Quality Control

Physical Appearance

Light yellow to greenish yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

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

Reaction

Reaction of 3.83% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.0±0.2

pH range 6.80-7.20

Cultural Response/ characteristics

DM 1580: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 22-24 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery	Colour of Colony
Enterococcus faecalis ATCC 29212	50-100	luxuriant	≥70%	blue
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922	50-100	luxuriant	≥70%	blue
Proteus vulgaris ATCC 13315	50-100	luxuriant	≥70%	colourless
Salmonella Typhi ATCC 6539	50-100	luxuriant	≥70%	colourless
Shigella flexneri ATCC 12022	50-100	luxuriant	≥70%	colourless
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 25923	50-100	luxuriant	≥70%	colourless

Storage and Shelf Life

Dried Media : Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and use before expiry date as mentioned on the label.

Prepared Media : 2-8° in sealable plastic bags for 2-5 days.

Further Reading

1. Thomas S. B., 1974, the Microflora of Bulk Collected Milk- Part 2, Dairy Ind. Int. 39 (8): 279
 2. De Vris T. 1975, Neth. Milk Dairy J., 29: 127
 3. Cousin M. A., 1982, J. Food Prot., 45:172
- Brandl E. and Soback - Skal E., 1963, Milchwiss. Ber., 13:1

Disclaimer :

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