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MAST® ID Indole Agar

IDM34

Intended use

An agar medium for the detection of indole production from tryptophan (the indole test).

Contents

See pack label.

Formulation*

Material:	Concentration in medium:
Enzymic casein	15.0 g/litre
Soy peptone	5.0 g/litre
Sodium chloride	5.0 g/litre
Agar	20.0 g/litre
Final pH: 7.3 ± 0.2	

Storage and shelf life

All dehydrated culture media containers should be kept tightly closed and stored in a dry place at 10 to 25°C until the expiry date shown on the pack label.

Precautions

For *in vitro* diagnostic use only. Observe approved hazard precautions and aseptic techniques. To be used only by adequately trained and qualified laboratory personnel. Sterilise all biohazard waste before disposal. Refer to Product Safety Data sheet (available on request or via MAST® website).

DMACA reagent is classified as Irritant.

Materials required but not provided

Standard microbiological supplies and equipment such as loops, MAST® selective supplements, swabs, applicator sticks, incinerators and incubators, etc., as well as serological and biochemical reagents and additives such as 4-(Dimethylamino) cinnamaldehyde (DMACA), CAS No. 6203-18-5.

Procedure

1. Refer to pack label for quantities and volumes required. Prepare MAST® ID Indole Agar (IDM34/A) by suspending the powder in distilled or deionised water. For sachet packs, dissolve the entire contents of the sachet in the volume shown on the label.
2. Sterilise by autoclaving at 121°C (15 p.s.i.) for 15 minutes.
3. Mix well and pour culture plates (15 to 20ml per plate) into Petri dishes which have been labelled using the self-adhesive labels provided. Self adhesive labels are provided in each box of preweighed sachets.
4. Prepared culture plates may be used immediately or stored in plastic bags at 2 to 8°C for up to one week.

5. Prepare a suspension of each organism equivalent in density to a 0.5 McFarland standard. Inoculate the surface of a well-dried plate using a replicating device, e.g. the SCANURIDOT Multipoint Inoculator, to deliver each inoculum onto the agar surface.
6. Allow the inoculum drops to dry before disturbing and incubate plates aerobically for 18 to 24 hours at 35 to 37°C.
7. After incubation of plates localise growth spots using a No. 7 cork borer or scalpel blade to cut the agar. Add 1 drop of DMACA reagent, as prepared below, to each spot.
8. Dissolve 1g of 4-(Dimethylamino) cinnamaldehyde (DMACA), CAS No. 6203-18-5, in 100ml of 10% v/v concentrated hydrochloric acid. The solution can be stored in the dark for up to 2 months at room temperature. DMACA reagent is classified as Irritant.

Interpretation of results

On addition of the DMACA reagent record any colour development occurring within 1 minute. A positive result indicating formation of indole is shown by development of blue colour. A negative result is indicated by a pink colour.

Quality control

Check for signs of deterioration. Quality control must be performed with at least one organism to demonstrate expected performance. Do not use the product if the result with the control organism is incorrect. The list below illustrates a range of performance control strains which the end user can easily obtain.

Test Organisms	
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC® 25922	Positive
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> ATCC® 13883	Negative

References

Bibliography available on request.