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Beef Extract

RM20

Intended use
A valuable source of certain nutrients.

Contents
See pack label.

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).

Since the late 1980s MAST® has sourced all its animal-derived culture media ingredients from non-bovine animals wherever possible. All animal-derived materials, including bovine materials, are from BSE-free regions of the world, are from animals certified as disease-free by qualified veterinarians and have been heat-treated in accordance with European regulations. Despite these precautions, MAST® Media Raw Materials must not be used in the manufacture of vaccines or food ingredients, or in the manufacture of any other high-risk products involving culture processes such as those destined for *in-vivo* or agricultural use.

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 blood.

Description
Beef Extract is a source of vitamins, genetic materials, essential salts, and nitrogen-containing compounds. Batches of MAST® Beef Extract are carefully selected and adjusted to give consistency of performance. They are tested to ensure that they perform correctly and that they are free from fermentable carbohydrates.

MAST® Beef Extract is presented as a powder which, when reconstituted, will give a neutral solution. At the concentrations normally used for the preparation of media, that is, less than 1%, the solution is brilliantly clear and will form precipitate-free media with other MAST® Media Raw Materials. 0.8g of the powder is equivalent to 1.0g of beef extract paste. Thus, for the formulation of a nutrient agar traditionally described as containing 1% beef extract, 8g per litre should be used.

Procedure
MAST® Beef Extract should be added at the appropriate concentration to culture media with additional ingredients e.g. agar and peptones as specified in the formulation being prepared.

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	Result
Escherichia coli ATCC® 25922	Growth*
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC® 25923	Growth*

*2% w/v sterile solution of MAST® Beef extract, with 0.5% w/v sodium chloride.

References
Bibliography available on request.

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