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S.S. Agar

DM205

Intended Use

A selective medium for the isolation of enteric pathogens.

Contents

See pack label.

Formulation*

Material:	Concentration in medium:
Beef extract	7.5 g/litre
Peptone	9.0 g/litre
Lactose	10.0 g/litre
Sodium thiosulphate	2.0 g/litre
Ferric ammonium citrate	2.0 g/litre
Bile salts	1.0 g/litre
Trisodium citrate	5.0 g/litre
Neutral red	0.025 g/litre
Agar	14.0 g/litre
Final pH: 7.4 ± 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).

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.

Procedure

1. Refer to pack label for quantities and volumes required. Prepare MAST® S.S. Agar (DM205D) by suspending the powder in distilled or deionised water and mixing thoroughly. For sachet packs, dissolve the entire contents of the sachet in the volume shown on the label.
2. Bring to the boil until dissolved. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE.
3. Mix well, pour culture plates (15 to 20ml per plate) and allow to set.
4. Prepared culture plates may be used immediately or stored in plastic bags at 2 to 8°C for up to one week before use.

5. Heavily inoculate plates with the specimen, stool or suspect material.
6. Incubate plates aerobically for 18 to 24 hours at 35 to 37°C.
7. In parallel, also inoculate a plate of a less inhibitory medium, such as MAST® MacConkey Agar without salt (DM140D).

Interpretation of results

After incubation record growth of organisms. Typical characteristics to note include: colony size, colour and morphology. After overnight growth non-lactose fermenters appear as colourless colonies while any lactose fermenting commensals able to grow on the medium appear as pink or red colonies. Most salmonella and shigella are non-lactose fermenting and appear as colourless colonies; salmonella often with a black central dot indicative of H₂S production.

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
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC® 25922	Pink/red colonies (inhibited)
<i>Shigella sonnei</i> ATCC® 9290	Colourless or pale yellow colonies
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> ATCC® 29212	No Growth
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC® 25923	No Growth
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i> ATCC® 14028	Colourless or pale yellow colonies

References

Bibliography available on request.