

MM0120

Blood Agar Base No. 2

Use and description: This agar base, enriched with blood, is a medium used for the isolation of fastidious bacteria without interfering with their haemolytic reactions. It also allows the formation of pigments. The medium can be made selective by the addition of different antibiotic mixtures: Colistin/Oxolinic acid, Neomycin, Colistin / Nalidixic acid. With chocolate blood it gives good recovery of *Haemophilus* spp.

Composition per liter:

Proteose peptone.....20.5 g
Liver extract.....2.5 g
Yeast extract.....5.0 g
Sodium chloride.....5.0 g
Agar.....12.0 g

Final pH of the ready to use medium: 7.4 ± 0.2

Medium preparation:

Add 45 grams of dehydrated culture medium to 1 liter of distilled water. Mix thoroughly. Heat with frequent agitation and boil for 1 min to completely dissolve. Autoclave for 15 min at 121°C. Cool to 47°C. Aseptically add 5-10% of sterile, defibrinated horse or sheep (bovine) blood. Pour into sterile Petri dishes.

Quality specifications:

Dehydrated medium: homogeneous, light beige fine powder.

Ready to use medium: opaque and cherry red when supplemented with blood.

Microbiological response at 37 °C, after 18-24 hours:

Organism	Result	Haemolysis
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	Growth	Beta
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> ATCC 6305	Growth	Alpha
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> ATCC 19615	Growth	Beta

On chocolate agar

<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> ATCC 35056	growth	-
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Storage:

Dehydrated medium should be stored between 10 to 25°C. Once opened, place the container in a dark, dry place. The dehydrated medium should not be used if there is any lump or the color has changed from the original.