

Use and description:

Rich medium highly suitable for the culture of fastidious bacteria, especially with the addition of blood. The medium can be made selective for various groups of organisms, by the addition of colistin and nalidixic-acid for staphylococci and streptococci.

By adding 10% blood and heating at 80°C until blood is chocolate, *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Neisseria* species can be efficiently cultivated.

Composition per liter:

Peptones.....	24.0 g
Yeast extract.....	3.0 g
Starch.....	1.0 g
Sodium chloride.....	5.0 g
Agar.....	12.0 g

Final pH of the ready to use medium: 7.3 ± 0.2

Medium preparation:

Add 40,5 grams of dehydrated culture medium to 1 liter of distilled water. Bring to the boil until completely dissolved then sterilise by autoclaving for 15 min at 121°C. Cool to 48°C and add 5-10% sterile, defibrinated horse or sheep blood. Mix well before pouring.

Quality specifications:

Dehydrated medium: homogeneous, fine, beige powder.

Ready to use medium: opaque red agar when blood added.

Microbiological response:

Organism	Result	Haemolysis
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> ATCC 6303	Growth, good to excellent	Alpha
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> ATCC 19615	Growth, good to excellent	Beta
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	Excellent growth	Beta/gamma

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 if color has changed from the original.