Plate Count HiCynth™ Agar (Standard Methods HiCynth™ Agar)

**Intended use**
Recommended for the determination of plate counts of microorganisms in food, water, waste water and also from clinical samples.

**Composition**

**Ingredients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Gms / Litre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HiCynth™ Peptone No.2*</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HiCynth™ Peptone No.6*</td>
<td>2.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dextrose (Glucose)</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agar</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final pH (at 25°C)</td>
<td>7.0±0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions**
Suspend 23.5 grams in 1000 ml purified / distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

**Principle And Interpretation**
Plate Count Agar is formulated as described by Buchbinder et al (2) which is recommended by APHA (1,6,7) and FDA (3). Plate Count HiCynth™ Agar is the modification of the same wherein animal or vegetables are replaced with chemically defined to avoid BSE/TSE risks associated with animal peptones. HiCynth™ Peptone No.2 and HiCynth™ Peptone No.5 provides nitrogenous and carbonaceous compounds, long chain amino acids, and other essential nutrients. APHA recommends the use of pour plate technique. The samples are diluted and appropriate dilutions are added in Petri plates. Sterile molten agar is added to these plates and plates are rotated gently to ensure uniform mixing of the sample with agar. The poured plate count method is preferred to the surface inoculation method, since it gives higher results. It is also suitable for enumerating bacterial count of sterile rooms.

**Type of specimen**
Clinical samples - Blood; Food and dairy samples; Water samples

**Specimen Collection and Handling**
For clinical samples follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens as per established guidelines (4,5).
For food and dairy samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection and processing as per guidelines (6,7).
For water samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection, processing as per guidelines and local standards(1). After use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding.

**Warning and Precautions**
In Vitro diagnostic Use. Read the label before opening the container. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Follow good microbiological lab practices while handling specimens and culture. Standard precautions as per established guidelines should be followed while handling clinical specimens. Safety guidelines may be referred in individual safety data sheets.

**Limitations**
1. This medium is general purpose medium and may not support the growth of fastidious organisms.

**Performance and Evaluation**
Performance of the medium is expected when used as per the direction on the label within the expiry period when stored at recommended temperature.

**Quality Control**

**Appearance**
Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

**Gelling**
Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

**Colour and Clarity of prepared medium**
Light yellow coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates
Cultural Response
Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35 - 37°C for 18 - 48 hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organism</th>
<th>Inoculum (CFU)</th>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacillus subtilis subsp.</em> spizizenii ATCC 6633 (00003*)</td>
<td>50-100 luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Enterococcus faecalis ATCC</em> 50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Escherichia coli ATCC</em> 25922 (00013*)</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lactobacillus casei ATCC</em> 9595</td>
<td>50-100 luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus ATCC</em> 25923 (00034*)</td>
<td>50-100 luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Streptococcus pyogenes</em> ATCC 19615</td>
<td>50-100 luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key : *Corresponding WDCM numbers.

Storage and Shelf Life
Store between 10-30°C in a tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 20-30°C. Use before expiry date on the label. On opening, product should be properly stored dry, after tightly capping the bottle in order to prevent lump formation due to the hygroscopic nature of the product. Improper storage of the product may lead to lump formation. Store in dry ventilated area protected from extremes of temperature and sources of ignition. Seal the container tightly after use. Product performance is best if used within stated expiry period.

Disposal
User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Follow established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and material that comes into contact with clinical sample must be decontaminated and disposed of in accordance with current laboratory techniques (4,5).

Reference
HiMedia Laboratories

Disclaimer:
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In vitro diagnostic medical device

CE Marking

Storage temperature

Do not use if package is damaged

HiMedia Laboratories Pvt. Limited,
23 Vadhani Industrial Estate,
LBS Marg,Mumbai-86,MS,India

CE Partner 4U ,Esdoornlaan 13, 3951 DB Maarn The Netherlands,
www.cepartner 4u.eu