

**NZY (Harvard) Growth Agar****G029**

NZY (Harvard) Growth Agar is used for lambda and filamentous phage.

**Composition\*\* :**

<b>Ingredients</b>	<b>Grams/Litre</b>
Casein enzymic hydrolysate	10.00
Yeast extract	5.00
Sodium chloride	8.00
Agar	15.00

\*\* Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

**Directions :**

Suspend 38 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Mix well and dispense as desired.

**Principle and Interpretation :**

NZY (Harvard) Growth Agar is used for lambda and filamentous phage. This medium was developed by Blattner and colleagues as a rich medium for the propagation of bacteriophages (1). Cells grow very fast in this medium as this medium provides all the amino acids, vitamins and other metabolites required for cell growth (2). Casein enzymic hydrolysate provides nitrogen, amino acids, and carbon sources for the cells. Yeast extract functions as the source of vitamins and trace elements. Sodium chloride provides sodium ions for transport and osmotic balance (3). This medium contains agar as the solidifying agent. NZY (Harvard) Growth Agar allows the cells to grow more rapidly as they do not have to synthesize nucleotide precursors and other factors required for growth.

**References:**

- (1) Blattner, F. R., B. G. Williams, A. E. Blechl, K. Denniston-Thompson, H. E. Faber, L. A. Furlong, D. J. Grunwald, D. O. Kiefer, D. D. Moore, J. W. Schumm, E. L. Sheldon, and O. Smithies. 1977. Charon phages: Safer derivatives of bacteriophage for DNA cloning. *Science* 196:161.
- (2) Ausubel, F. M., R. Brent, R. E. Kingston, D. D. Moore, J. G. Seidman, J. A. Smith, and K. Struhl. 1994. *Current protocols in molecular biology*, vol. 1. Current Protocols, New York, NY.

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(3) Sambrook J., E. F. Fritsch, and T. Maniatis. 1989. Molecular cloning: a laboratory manual, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY.

**Quality Control :****Appearance of Powder :**

Cream to yellow coloured, homogeneous, free flowing powder.

**Gelling :**

Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel.

**Colour and Clarity :**

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.

**Organisms (ATCC)**

*Escherichia coli*

**Growth**

good-luxuriant

**Storage and Shelf-life :**

Store below 30°C and the prepared medium at 2 - 8°C. Use before expiry date on the label.