

CM 20364 – CALCIUM CARBONATE AGAR

INTENDED USE

For the differentiation of microorganisms especially yeasts based on the production of acid from glucose.

PRODUCT SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

Yeasts and Moulds form a very large group of microorganisms, with most coming from the air, water or soil. Yeasts are unicellular, eukaryotic, budding cells that are generally round oval or elongate in shape. They multiply principally by the production of blastoconidia (buds). Yeast colonies are moist and creamy or glabrous to membranous in texture and are considered opportunistic pathogens. Moulds are microscopic, plant-like organisms, composed of long filaments called hyphae. Calcium Carbonate Agar is differentiation agar recommended by Kurtzman and Fell for the identification of yeasts. Yeast extract provides the nitrogen, vitamins and amino acids for growth. Yeasts from the genus *Dekkera* (*Brettanomyces*) forms acetic acid and show a positive result. Sometimes the acid production is quite weak. Also some other yeasts like *Candida* species produce some citric acid and show a weak positive reaction.

COMPOSITION

Ingredients	Gms / Ltr
Calcium Carbonate (fine, granulated)	5.000
Dextrose (Glucose)	50.000
Yeast extract	5.000
Agar	15.000

PRINCIPLE

Glucose is the fermentable carbohydrate. Calcium carbonate serves as an indicator as it makes the plate milky and turbid and in case of acid is produced the media clears up. The acid is produced due to characteristic fermentation of glucose, which along with calcium carbonate results in forming calcium acetate, that gets soluble in water.

INSTRUCTION FOR USE

Dissolve 75 grams in 1000 ml purified / distilled water.

Heat to boiling to digest the agar completely. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE.

A residue of calcium may remain. Cool to 45-50°C.

Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates, by evenly distributing the residue.

Note: Due to the presence of calcium carbonate, the prepared medium forms an opalescent solution with a white precipitate.

QUALITY CONTROL SPECIFICATIONS

Appearance of Powder : Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder.

Appearance of prepared medium : Light yellow coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates.

INTERPRETATION

Cultural characteristics observed after incubation.

Microorganism	ATCC	Inoculum (CFU/ml)	Growth	Recovery	Acid production	Incubation Temperature	Incubation Period
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