Millipore®
Preparation, Separation,
Filtration & Testing Products

Technical Data Sheet

Tryptic Soy Contact Agar + LT – ICRplus

Ordering number: 1665520020-CN / 1665520200-CN

Tryptic Soy Contact Agar + LT - ICR+ is designed for the determination of the total microbial aerobic and anaerobic count on dry, sanitized surfaces and personnel in Isolators and Clean Rooms.

Ten lockable contact plates each with a diameter of 55 mm are triple-bagged in transparent, hydrogen peroxide impermeable bags. The product is gamma-irradiated in the final packaging at a dose of 9-20 kGy. The bags consist of polypropylene with a barrier of PE-EVOH-PE.

The formulation of the basic medium (Soybean-Casein Digest Agar) is prepared according to the recommendations of the current European, Japanese and United States Pharmacopoeia (EP, 2.6.12.; JP, 4.05 and USP, 61) and supplemented with neutralizers.

Mode of Action

Tryptic Soy Agar (TSA, Soybean-Casein Digest Agar) is a complex medium for cultivation and isolation of a wide range of bacteria, yeasts and molds. The medium is supplemented with pyruvate in order to provide an efficient neutralization of hydrogen peroxide for use in Isolators. Internal studies confirmed the neutralization efficiency of the neutralizers lecithin and polysorbate (Tween®) 80 for disinfectants containing the following active agents:

- Alcohol (70 % ethanol or isopropyl alcohol)
- Aldehydes
- Dichloroisocyanurate
- Glucoprotamine
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Peracetic acid
- Phenolic compounds
- Low concentrated quaternary ammonium compounds

The neutralizing efficiency towards residues of disinfectants in use should be validated at the application site.

Typical Composition

Casein Peptone	15 g/l
Soy Peptone	5 g/l
NaCl	5 g/l
Polysorbate (Tween®) 80	5 ml/l
Lecithin	0.7 g/l
Agar	15 g/l

The appearance of the medium is clear and yellowish. The pH value is in the range of 7.1-7.5. The medium can be adjusted and/or supplemented according to the performance criteria required.

Application and Interpretation

The plates are introduced into Clean Rooms grade A or B by removing one bag in each material lock. For use in Isolators the inner bag has a hole in the sealing to hang up the bag during decontamination. Do not leave plates which are unprotected (unwrapped) in an Isolator during decontamination.

Each plate is provided with a label including a data matrix code for paperless plate identification. The code consists of a two-dimensional 24-digit serial number, which harbors the following information:

Digits 1-3: here code N11 (corresponds to article 166552); digits 4-13: lot number; digits 14-18: batch specific individual number; digits 19-24: expiry date (YY/MM/DD).

Please check each agar plate before using it on sterility and pay attention to aseptic handling in order to avoid false positive results.

According to ISO 14698 the plates are opened and the agar surface is pressed on the dry surface to be tested for some seconds with a steady pressure. Similar recommendations are included in the PDA technical report No.13. Afterwards the plates are closed and transferred to an incubator. To protect the plates from secondary contamination during transport and incubation outside of the Clean Room zone, sterile transport bags (article number 146509) may be used. Residues of culture medium should be removed from the surface after sampling.

In addition, the plate model (plus or „+“) is supplied with a

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lockable lid. For safe transport after sampling without the risk of losing the lid as well as for aerobic incubation the plates should be locked in the “CLOSED”-position (turn the lid clockwise). For anaerobic or microaerophilic incubation in the “VENT”position (turn the lid counter-clockwise) is mandatory, because this lid-position provides sufficient gas exchange with the atmosphere in the incubation chamber. Aerobic incubation while turning the lid in “VENT”-position is also possible but may increase the desiccation of the agar plates during incubation.

Several recommendations are given by different guidelines for incubation: according to USP <1116> the plates used for environmental monitoring should be incubated between 20 and 35 °C for not less than 72 hours. According to the FDA Aseptic Guide the plates for determination of the total aerobic bacterial count should be incubated at 30 to 35 °C for 48 to 72 hours, while the plates for determination of the total yeast and mold count should be incubated at 20 to 25 °C for 5 to 7 days. Individual incubation conditions can be chosen and should be validated at the application side.

Finally, the number of CFU per plate is examined.

Grown colonies are recommended to be identified.

Storage and Shelf Life

The product can be used for sampling until the expiry date if stored upright, protected from light and properly sealed at 2 °C to 25 °C.

Condensation can be prevented by avoiding quick temperature shifts and mechanical stress.

Please store the plates at stable temperatures. The plates show minimum water condensation when stored at 15 °C to 25 °C.

The testing procedures as described on the CoA can be started up to the expiry date printed on the label.

Disposal

Please mind the respective regulations for the disposal of used culture medium (e.g. autoclave for 20 min at 121 °C, disinfect, incinerate etc.).

Quality Control

Control Strains	ATCC #	Inoculum CFU	Incubation	Expected Result Recovery
Staphylococcus aureus	6538	10-100	20-24 h at 30-35 °C	50-200 %
Staphylococcus aureus in the presence of 50µl Cutasept F	6538	10-100	20-24 h at 30-35 °C	50-200 %
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	9027	10-100	20-24 h at 30-35 °C	50-200 %
Bacillus subtilis	6633	10-100	20-24 h at 30-35 °C	50-200 %
Clostridium sporogenes	11437	10-100	44-48 h at 30-35 °C, anaerobic	50-200 %
Candida albicans	10231	10-100	44-48 h at 30-35 °C	50-200 %
Aspergillus brasiliensis	16404	10-100	44-48 h at 30-35 °C	50-200 %

Please refer to the actual batch related Certificate of Analysis.

Literature

European Pharmacopoeia: 2.6.12. Microbial examination of non-sterile products.

ISO 14698-1:2003: Clean Rooms and associated controlled environments - Biocontamination control - Part 1: General principles and methods.

Japanese Pharmacopoeia: 4.05 Microbiological Examination of Non-Sterile Products.

PDA Technical Report No. 13: Fundamentals of an Environmental Monitoring Program.

United States Pharmacopoeia: <61> Microbiological Examination of Non-Sterile Products: Microbial Enumeration Tests; <1116> Microbiological Control and Monitoring of Aseptic Processing Environments.

Ordering Information

Product	Cat. No.	Pack size
Tryptic Soy Contact Agar + LT - ICR+	1665520020-CN	20 x 55 mm plates
Tryptic Soy Contact Agar + LT - ICR+	1665520200-CN	200 x 55 mm plates
Tryptic Soy Contact Agar + LT - ICR	1665020020-CN	20 x 55 mm plates
Tryptic Soy Contact Agar + LT - ICR	1665020200-CN	200 x 55 mm plates
Transport Bags, sterile	1.46509.0125	25 x 5 bags

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