

BLOOD AGAR BASE N.2

General purpose medium with improved nutritional features in comparison with Blood Agar Base. Suitable for fastidious microorganisms (ISO 10560).

TYPICAL FORMULA (g/l)

Peptospecial	15.0
Liver Extract	2.5
Yeast Extract	5.0
Sodium Chloride	5.0
Agar	15.0

Final pH = 7.4 ± 0.1 at 25 °C.

DIRECTIONS

Suspend 42.5 g of powder in 1 liter of distilled or deionized water. Heat until completely dissolved. Sterilize in autoclave at 121 °C for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50 °C and aseptically add 5-7% sterile defibrinated sheep or horse blood. Mix well. Dispense in petri dishes.

DESCRIPTION

BLOOD AGAR BASE N. 2 is a medium particularly suitable for the isolation of nutritionally very demanding microorganisms, according to ISO 10560: 1993. Adding of sheep or horse blood BLOOD AGAR BASE N. 2 permits the detection of the streptococci and staphylococci haemolytic activity. Adding of 10% cooked defibrinated blood as chocolate permits the isolation of *Haemophilus* and *Neisseria*.

TECHNIQUE

Inoculate the medium with the specimen to examine spreading with a sterile loop and incubate at 36 ± 1 °C for 18-48 hours under aerobic or anaerobic conditions, depending on the case.

QUALITY CONTROL

Dehydrated medium

Appearance: free-flowing, homogeneous.

Colour: beige.

Prepared medium

Appearance: slight opalescent.

Colour: cherry red.

Incubation conditions: 36 ± 1 °C for 48 hours at 5-10% CO₂.

Microorganism	ATCC	Growth	Hemolysis
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	6303	good	alpha
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	25922	good	
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	19615	good	beta
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	25923	good	beta

PERFORMANCE AND LIMITATIONS

Hemolytic reactions of some strains of Group D streptococci have been shown to be affected by differences in animal blood. Such strains are beta-hemolytic on horse, human and rabbit blood agar and alpha-hemolytic on sheep blood agar. Blood Agar Base is intended for use with blood supplementation. Although some diagnostics tests may be performed directly on this medium, biochemical and, if indicated, immunological testing using pure cultures are recommended for complete identification.



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STORAGE

The powder is very hygroscopic: store the powder at 10-30 °C, in a dry environment, in its original container tightly closed and use it before the expiry date on the label or until signs of deterioration or contamination are evident. Store prepared plates at 2-8 °C.

REFERENCES

1. Brown, J.H.. 1919. The use of blood agar for the study of streptococci, NY Monograph No. 9. In Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.
2. Ruoff, K.L. 1995. Streptococcus, p. 299-305. Manual of clinical microbiology, 6th ed.
3. NCCLS document M22-A2, 1996. Approved Standard.
4. ISO 10560: 1993. Milk and milk products – Detection of *Listeria monocytogenes*.

PRESENTATION



Product	REF	
BLOOD AGAR BASE N.2 (12.6 l)	610188	500 g
BLOOD AGAR BASE N.2 (2.5 l)	620188	100 g

TABLE OF SYMBOLS

LOT Batch code	 Caution, consult accompanying documents	 Manufacturer	 Contains sufficient for <n> tests	IVD <i>In Vitro</i> Diagnostic Medical Device
REF Catalogue number	 Fragile, handle with care	 Use by	 Temperature limitation	 Keep away from heat source



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