



Niacin Assay Medium

M040

Niacin Assay Medium is recommended for the microbiological assay of Niacin (Nicotinic Acid) or Niacinamide using *Lactobacillus plantarum* ATCC 8014 as the test organism

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Casein enzymic hydrolysate, vitamin free	12.000
Dextrose	40.000
Sodium acetate	20.000
L-Cystine	0.400
DL-Tryptophan	0.200
Adenine sulphate	0.020
Guanine hydrochloride	0.020
Uracil	0.020
Thiamine hydrochloride	0.0002
Calcium pantothenate	0.0002
Pyridoxine hydrochloride	0.0004
Riboflavin (Vitamin B2)	0.0004
p-Amino benzoic acid (PABA)	0.0002
Biotin	0.0000008
Dipotassium phosphate	1.000
Monopotassium phosphate	1.000
Magnesium sulphate	0.400
Sodium chloride	0.020
Ferrous sulphate	0.020
Manganese sulphate	0.020
Final pH (at 25°C)	6.8±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 7.51 grams in 100 ml distilled water. Heat if necessary, to dissolve the medium completely. Mix well to distribute the slight precipitate evenly. For the assay, dispense 5 ml medium per assay tube (containing increasing amounts of standard or unknown) and make up the total volume to 10 ml per tube with distilled water. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 10 minutes. Cool immediately. Generally satisfactory results are obtained with niacin or niacinamide at levels of 0.0, 0.025, 0.05, 0.075, 0.1, 0.125, 0.15, 0.2 and 0.25 mcg per assay tube (10 ml).

Principle And Interpretation

Niacin Assay Medium is classified under the category of assay medium of vitamin assay medium. The other two categories of medium essential in vitamin assay are the inoculum media, used for preparation of inoculum to be used in the assay procedure, and maintenance media, used for maintenance of stock cultures used in assay procedures. Niacin Assay Medium is prepared according to the formula described by Snell and Wright (1) and modified by Krehl, Strong and Elvehjam (2) and Barton-Wright (3). This medium is recommended by AOAC (4) and USP (5). Niacin Assay Medium is used for the assay of Niacin (Nicotinamide) employing *Lactobacillus plantarum* ATCC 8014 as the test organism.

Microbiological assay of Niacin is carried out by using *L. plantarum* ATCC 8014 as the test organism. Standard curve is obtained by using USP (5) Niacin reference standard with levels of 0.0, 0.025, 0.05, 0.075, 0.1, 0.125, 0.15, 0.2 and 0.25 mcg niacin per assay tube (10 ml). Niacin Assay Medium is used for both turbidimetric and acidimetric analysis. Turbidimetric determination is made after 16-18 hours incubation at 35-37°C. Acidimetric determinations are best made following 72 hours incubation at 35-37°C.

Niacin Assay Medium is devoid of nicotinic acid but contains all other nutrients and vitamins essential for the cultivation of *L. plantarum* ATCC 8014. Addition of Niacin (Nicotinic acid) in specified increasing concentrations gives a corresponding growth response that can be measured turbidimetrically or titrimetrically.

Stock cultures of *L. plantarum* ATCC 8014 are maintained on Lactobacilli Agar, AOAC (M366). Culture for assay is obtained by inoculating Lactobacilli Agar, AOAC (M366) and incubating at 35-37°C for 24-48 hours. These cultures are then inoculated into Lactobacilli Broth, AOAC (M367), to prepare the inoculum. Following an incubation at 35-37°C for 18-24 hours, the cells are centrifuged and washed thrice with 0.85% saline. The appropriate dilution of cells so obtained is used to inoculate tubes of Niacin Assay Medium (M040), containing increasing concentrations of Niacin. Using standard Niacin concentration, a standard curve is obtained. This standard is used to extrapolate the unknown niacin concentration. For detailed procedure, refer standard procedures (4, 5).

Extreme care must be taken to avoid contamination of media or glassware used for microbiological assay procedures. Detergent-free clean glassware should be used. Even small amount of contamination by foreign material can lead to erroneous results.

Quality Control

Appearance

Off-white to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

Colour and Clarity of Prepared medium

Light amber coloured clear solution which may contain a slight precipitate.

Reaction

Reaction of 7.51% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 6.8±0.2

pH

6.60-7.00

Cultural Response

Microbiological assay of Niacin is carried out using *L. plantarum* ATCC 8014 after an incubation at 35-37°C for 16-18 hrs.

Cultural Response

Organism

Growth

Cultural Response

Growth

Good growth is obtained.

Gradual increase in growth with increasing conc. of Std Niacin-0.0,0.025,0.05,0.075,0.1,0.125, 0.15,0.2 & 0.25mcg per assay tube is recorded aseptivalent increase in absorbance at 620nm.

Storage and Shelf Life

Store below 8°C in a tightly closed container and use freshly prepared medium. Use before expiry date on the label.

Reference

1. Snell and Wright, 1941, J. Biol. Chem. 13:675.
2. Krehl, Strong and Elvehjem, 1943, Ind. & Eng. Chem., Ann. Ed. 15:471.
3. Barton-Wright, 1944, J. Biochem., 38:314.
4. Williams, (Ed.), 2005, Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, 19th Ed., AOAC, Washington, D.C.
5. The United States Pharmacopoeia, 2006, USP29/NF24, The United States Pharmacopoeial Convention, Rockville, MD.

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