Antibiotic Assay Medium No. 8 (Base Agar w/low pH)  

Antibiotic Assay Medium No. 8 is used in the microbiological assay of Oxytetracycline, Tetracycline and Vancomycin.

**Composition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Gms / Litre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peptic digest of animal tissue (Peptone)</td>
<td>6.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yeast extract</td>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef extract</td>
<td>1.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agar</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final pH (at 25°C)</td>
<td>5.9±0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Directions**

Suspend 25.5 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.

Advice: Recommended for the microbiological assay of Oxytetracycline, Tetracycline and Vancomycin.

**Principle And Interpretation**

Antibiotic Assay Media are used in the performance of antibiotic assays. Grove and Randall have elucidated those antibiotic assays and media in their comprehensive treatise on antibiotic assays (1). Schmidt and Moyer have reported the use of antibiotic assay medium for the liquid formulation used in the performance of antibiotic assay (2). These media are prepared according to the specifications detailed in the USP(3) and FDA (4).

Beef extract, yeast extract and peptic digest of animal tissue serves as a source of nutrients and growth factors.

**Quality Control**

**Appearance**
Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

**Gelling**
Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

**Colour and Clarity of prepared medium**
Light amber coloured opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

**Reaction**
Reaction of 2.55% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 5.9±0.2

**pH**
5.70-6.10

**Cultural Response**
M041: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 18-24 hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organism</th>
<th>Inoculum (CFU)</th>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
<th>Antibiotics assayed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacillus subtilis</em> ATCC 6633 50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mitomycin, Vancomycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bacillus cereus</em> var mycoides ATCC 11778 50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=70%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oxytetracycline, Tetracycline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Storage and Shelf Life**

Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and use freshly prepared medium. Use before expiry date on label.

**Reference**


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