



Technical Data

HiCrome™ E. coli Agar

M1295I

Intended Use:

Recommended for the detection and enumeration of *Escherichia coli* in foods without further confirmation on membrane filter or by indole reagent. The composition and performance of this media are as per specifications laid down in ISO 16649-1:2018 and ISO 11133:2014 (E) /Amd.:2020.

Composition**

ISO Specification : TBX

Ingredients	g / L
Enzymatic digest of casein	20.000
Bile salts No. 3	1.500
5-Bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl β-D-glucuronic acid (BCIG)	0.075
Agar	9.0-18.0
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.2±0.2

HiCrome™ E. coli Agar

M1295I

Ingredients	g / L
Tryptone	20.000
Bile salts mixture	1.500
X-Glucuronide	0.075
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.2±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 36.57 gram in 1000 ml purified/ distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

HiCrome™ E.coli Agar is based on Tryptone Bile Agar to detect *Escherichia coli* in foods (1), where recovery of *E.coli* is faster, more reliable and accurate. Most of the *E.coli* strains can be differentiated from other coliforms by the presence of enzyme glucuronidase, which is highly specific for *E.coli* (2). The chromogenic agent X-glucuronide used in this medium helps to detect glucuronidase activity of *E.coli*. *E.coli* cells absorb X-glucuronide and the intracellular glucuronidase enzyme splits the bond between the chromophore and the glucuronide. The released chromophore gives bluish green colouration to the *E.coli* colonies. The formulation is in accordance with ISO 16649-1 (3) and performance of this media are as per specifications laid down in ISO 11133 (4) .

Tryptone provides carbon, nitrogen compounds, long chain amino acids, vitamins and other essential growth nutrients to the organisms. Bile salts mixture inhibits gram-positive organisms. The surface of the plated medium is dried before use. Dilute food samples 1:5 or 1:10 with 0.1% (w/v) sterile Peptone Water (M028) and homogenize in a blender or a stomacher. Pipette 0.5 ml or 1.0 ml of the homogenized food sample on to the plate and spread with sterile glass spreader. Incubate the plates at 30°C for 4 hours and then at 44°C for 18 hours.

Type of specimen

Food samples

Specimen Collection and Handling

For food samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection and processing as per guidelines (3-5).

After use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding.

Warning and Precautions

Read the label before opening the container. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Follow good microbiological lab practices while handling specimens and culture. Standard precautions as per established guidelines should be followed while handling specimens. Safety guidelines may be referred in individual safety data sheets.

Limitations

- 1.β-glucuronidase is present in 97% of *E.coli* strains, however few *E.coli* may be negative.
- 2.Certain species of *Salmonella* are β-glucuronidase positive.

Please refer disclaimer Overleaf.

- Individual organisms differ in their growth requirement and may show variable growth patterns on the medium.
- Each lot of the medium has been tested for the organisms specified on the COA. It is recommended to users to validate the medium for any specific microorganism other than mentioned in the COA based on the user's unique requirement.

Performance and Evaluation

Performance of the medium is expected when used as per the direction on the label within the expiry period when stored at recommended temperature.

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 yellow coloured, clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

Reaction

Reaction of 3.66% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.2±0.2

pH

7.00-7.40

Cultural Response

Productivity :Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 44±1°C for 21±3 hours. Recovery rate is considered as 100% for bacteria growth on Reference Medium - Soyabean Casein Digest Agar (Tryptone Soya Agar).

Specificity :Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 44±1°C for 21±3 hours.

Selectivity :Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 44±1°C for 21±3 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery	Colour of Colony
Productivity				
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922 (00013*)	50-100	luxuriant	≥50%	Blue
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 8739 (00012*)	50-100	luxuriant	≥50%	Blue
<i>Escherichia coli</i> NCTC 13216 (00202*)	50-100	luxuriant	≥50%	Blue
Specificity				
<i>Citrobacter freundii</i> ATCC 43864 (00006*)	10 ³ -10 ⁴	luxuriant		White to green-beige
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853 (00025*)	10 ³ -10 ⁴	luxuriant		White to green-beige
Selectivity				
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> ATCC 19433 (00009*)	≥10 ⁴	inhibited		
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> ATCC 29212 (00087*)	≥10 ⁴	inhibited		

Key : *Corresponding WDCM numbers.

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 15-25°C in a tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 2-8°C. Use before expiry date on the label. On opening, product should be properly stored dry, after tightly capping the bottle in order to prevent lump formation due to the hygroscopic nature of the product. Improper storage of the product may lead to lump formation. Store in dry ventilated area protected from extremes of temperature and sources of ignition Seal the container tightly after use. Product performance is best if used within stated expiry period.

Disposal

User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Follow established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and material that comes into contact with sample must be decontaminated and disposed of in accordance with current laboratory techniques (5,6).

Reference

- 1.Anderson J.M. and Baird-Parker A.C., (1975), J. Appl. Bact., 39:111.
- 2.Hansen W. and Yourassawsky E.,(1984), J.Clin. Microbiol., 20:1177.
- 3.Microbiology of the food chain — Horizontal method for the enumeration of beta-glucuronidase-positive *Escherichia coli* Part 1: Colony-count technique at 44 degrees C using membranes and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl beta-D-glucuronide ISO 16649-1:2018
- 4.Microbiology of food, animal feeding stuffs and water- Preparation production, storage and performance testing of culture media, ISO 11133:2014 (E) & Amd :2020.
- 5.Isenberg, H.D. Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook. 2nd Edition
- 6.Jorgensen,J.H., Pfaller , M.A., Carroll, K.C., Funke, G., Landry, M.L., Richter, S.S and Warnock., D.W. (2015) Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 11th Edition. Vol. 1.

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Disclaimer :

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