HiCrome Candida Differential HiVeg Agar

MV1297A

HiCrome Candida Differential HiVeg Agar is recommended for rapid isolation and identification of *Candida* species from mixed cultures.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
HiVeg special peptone	15.000
Dipotassium hydrogen phosphate	1.000
Chromogenic mixture	7.220
Chloramphenicol	0.500
Agar	15.000
Yeast extract	4.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	6.3±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 42.72 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE. Cool to 50°C and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

Perry and Miller (1) reported that *Candida albicans* produces an enzyme b -N-acetyl- galactosaminidase and according to Rousselle et al (2) incorporation of chromogenic or fluorogenic hexosaminidase substrates into the growth medium helps in identification of *C.albicans* isolates directly on primary isolation. HiCrome Candida Differential Hiveg Agar is prepared by replacing animal based peptones with vegetable peptones. It is a slight modification of HiCrome Candida Differential Agar which is a selective and differential medium, which facilitates rapid isolation of yeasts from mixed cultures and allows differentiation of *Candida* species namely *C. albicans, C. krusei, C. tropicalis* and *C. glabrata* on the basis of colouration and colony morphology. On this medium results are obtained within 48 hours and it is useful for the rapid and presumptive identification of common yeasts in Mycology and Clinical Microbiology Laboratory.

HiVeg special peptone and yeast extract provides nitrogenous, carbonaceous compounds and other essential growth nutrients. Phosphate buffers the medium well. Chloramphenicol suppresses the accompaning bacterial flora. *C. albicans* appear as light green coloured smooth colonies, *C. tropicalis* appear as blue to metallic blue coloured raised colonies. *C. glabrata* colonies appear as cream to white smooth colonies, while *C. krusei* appear as purple fuzzy colonies.

Quality Control

Appearance
Cream to beige homogeneous free flowing powder

Gelling
Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

Colour and Clarity
Light amber clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

Reaction
Reaction of 4.27% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 6.3±0.2

pH
6.10-6.50

Cultural Response
MV1297A: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 30°C for 40-48 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery	Colour of Colony

Candida albicans ATCC 10231	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%	light green
Candida glabrata ATCC 15126	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%	cream to white
Candida krusei ATCC 24408	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%	purple, fuzzy
Candida tropicalis ATCC 750	50-100	good-luxuriant	>=50%	blue to purple
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922	>=10^3	inhibited	0%	
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 25923	>=10^3	inhibited	0%	

Storage and Shelf Life

Store dehydrated powder in tightly closed container and prepared medium at 2-8°C. Use before expiry period on the label.

Reference

1.Perry J. L. and Miller G. R., 1987, J. Clin. Microbiol., 25: 2424 -2425.
2.Rousselle P., Freydiere A., Couillerot P., de Montclos H. and GilleY., 1994, J. Clin. Microbiol. 32:3034-3036.

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