

## Agar Strip - SD (TSA-Agar for total count)

PS290

These are sterile disposable Plastic Air Sampler strips filled with TSA agar for total microbial count.

### Directions

- 1) Remove the agar medium strip from the wrapper. Pull it out holding by edges only. Do not touch agar/media surface.
- 2) Insert it peripherally into the slot of the air sample in the metal cup carefully (without touching the medium). Please, be sure that the agar surface faces the impeller only. Insert the strip fully so that only 2cms of the strip stay out.
- 3) Carry out the air sampling as directed.
- 4) After sampling is over, hold the strip by its tab. carefully pullout the strip.
- 5) Now replace in its original wrapper. Make sure that agar surface faces away from the sliding lid.
- 6) Slide the lid to seal the wrapper/seal using adhesive tape.
- 7) Mark the wrapper as desired and incubate.

### Principle And Interpretation

Soyabean Casein Digest Agar is a widely used medium, which supports the growth of wide variety of organisms even that of fastidious ones such as *Neisseria*, *Listeria*, and *Brucella* etc. The medium with addition of blood provides perfectly defined haemolysis zones, while preventing the lysis of erythrocytes due to its sodium chloride content. It has been frequently used in the health industry to produce antigens, toxins etc. Its simple and inhibitor-free composition makes it suitable for the detection of antimicrobial agents in the food and other products. Tryptone Soya Agar is recommended by various pharmacopoeias as sterility testing medium (1, 2).

### Quality Control

#### Appearance

Plastic Air Sampler strips filled with sterile Soyabean Casein Digest Agar.

#### Colour

Light yellow coloured medium.

#### Quantity of Medium

14ml of medium in air sampler strips

#### pH

7.10- 7.50

#### Cultural Response

Recovery rate is considered 100% for bacteria growth on Blood Agar and fungus growth on Sabouraud Dextrose Agar.

#### Growth promoting properties

Growth of microorganism comparable to that previously obtained with previously tested and approved lot of medium occurs at the specified temperature for not more than the shortest period of time specified inoculating  $\leq 100$  cfu (at 30-35°C for 18 hours).

#### Sterility Test

Passes release criteria.

#### Cultural Response

PS290: Growth Promotion was carried out in accordance with the harmonized method and growth was observed after an incubation at 30-35°C for 18-24 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Observed Lot value (CFU)	Recovery	Incubation temperature	Incubation period
<b>Growth promoting</b> <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> ATCC 6633	50 -100	35 -100	$\geq 70$ %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs

<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 6538	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 8739	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Escherichia coli</i> NCTC 9002	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 9027	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Salmonella Abony</i> NCTC 6017	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Micrococcus luteus</i> ATCC 9341	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> ATCC 6305	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Salmonella Typhimurium</i> ATCC 14028	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	18 -24 hrs
<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 10231	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	<=5 d
<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 2091	50 -100	35 -100	>=70 %	30 -35 °C	<=5 d
<i>Aspergillus brasiliensis</i> ATCC 16404	50 -100	25 -70	50 -70 %	30 -35 °C	<=5 d

## Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 2-8°C. Use before expiry date on the label.

## Reference

1. The United States Pharmacopoeia / National Formulary, 2008, USP 31, The United States Pharmacopoeial Convention Inc., Rockville, MD.
2. Indian Pharmacopoeia, 2007, Govt. of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, India.

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