

Blood Agar Base

Suitable for the isolation and cultivation of fastidious microorganisms

Formula in grams per liter:

Heart Infusion	10,00	Meat Peptone	10,00
Sodium Chloride	5,00	Bacteriological Agar	15,00

Final pH: 7,3 ± 0,2 at 25 °C

Preparation:

Suspend 40 grams of the medium in one litre of distilled water. Leave to stand for 5 minutes and mix well until a uniform suspension is obtained. Heat with gentle agitation and boil for one minute. Sterilize to 121°C (15 lbs. sp.) for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C, and add 5 -10% sterile defibrinated blood, homogenize and pour into Petri plates.

Uses:

For the isolation, cultivation and detection of hemolytic reaction of fastidious microorganisms. Blood Agar Base is suitable to isolate and cultivate a wide range of microorganisms with difficult growth. Upon adding blood, it can be utilized for determining hemolytic reactions. Once the medium has been melted and cooled to 45 °C you can add 5-10% of defibrinated sterile sheep blood, in this case you can recuperate Haemophylus. Be careful to avoid bubble formation when adding the blood to the cooled medium and rotate the flask or bottle slowly to create a homogeneous solution. The medium can then be poured into dishes and solidified.

You can also inoculate the empty Petri dish with a small amount of specimen material and then pour the medium at 50°C, swirl the plate gently to homogenize the inoculum.

In some laboratories the medium is prepared in screwcapped tubes which can be inoculated at 45°C and then poured into sterile Petri dishes.

Microbiological Tests:

Microorganisms	Growth	Transparency
<i>Neisseria meningitides</i> ATCC 13090	Good	-
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	Good	Beta
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> ATCC 12228	Good	-
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> ATCC 6303	Good	Alpha
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> ATCC 19615	Good	Beta

