

CORN MEAL AGAR

CAT N°: 1164 For chlamydospore production by *Candida albicans* and for the culture of phytopathological fungi

FORMULA IN g/l

Corn Meal Infusion	2.0	Bacteriological Agar	15.0
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Final pH 6.0 ± 0.2 at 25°C

PREPARATION

Suspend 17 grams of the medium in one liter of distilled water. Mix well and dissolve by heating with frequent agitation. Boil for one minute until complete dissolution. Sterilize in autoclave at 121°C for 15 minutes. Cool to 50°C, mix well and dispense into Petri dishes. The prepared medium should be stored at 8-15°C. The color is opaque and white.

The dehydrated medium should be homogeneous, free-flowing and beige in color. If there are any physical changes, discard the medium.

USES

CORN MEAL AGAR is a general-purpose medium used for the cultivation of fungi.

Candida albicans is the etiological agent in Candidiasis, which ranges from a mild to severe skin, nail, and mucous membrane infections. One of the most important differentiating characteristics of *C. albicans* is its capacity to form chlamydospores on some media. Chlamydospore production is an important characteristic for diagnosis used in the identification of *C. albicans*.

Corn Meal infusion provides nitrogen, vitamins, minerals and amino acids essential for growth. Bacteriological agar is the solidifying agent.

Corn Meal is valuable for the morphologic differentiation of many yeast-like organisms. It suppresses the vegetative growth of many fungi and at the same time stimulates the sporulation. Corn Meal Agar allows *Candida albicans* to produce chlamydospores, which is one of the best criteria for identification. Walker and Huppert reported that the addition of 1% Tween 80 enhanced chlamydospore formation.

MICROBIOLOGICAL TEST

The following results were obtained of the medium from type cultures after incubation at a temperature of 25 ± 2°C and observed after 48-60 hours.

Microorganisms	Growth	Chlamydospores
<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 10231	Good	+
<i>Aspergillus brasiliensis</i> ATCC 16404	Good	-
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> ATCC 9763	Good	-

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Haley and Callaway. 1978. Laboratory methods in medical mycology. HEW Publication No. (CDC) 78-8361. Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, Ga.

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STORAGE

Once opened keep powdered medium closed to avoid hydration.

