

Nutrient Agar Plates Protocol

Written by:	Date: 15 th May 2019
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Background:

Nutrient agar is a commonly used media for the growth of microorganisms (bacteria and fungi) that are non-fastidious. It is commonly used because it grows a wide range of microorganisms.

Reagents:

Peptone	2.5 g
Yeast extract	1.5 g
Agar	7.5 g
Sodium chloride	2.5 g
Distilled water	500 ml

Materials:

500 mL Or 1 Liter glass flask
Balance
Autoclave tape
Petri dishes

Procedure:

1. Turn on the balance, before using the balance, make sure it is in an equilibrium position (check the round bubble on the balance and make sure it is in the center of the circle).
2. Put the plastic measuring bowl on the balance, press "tare"
3. Weigh the required amount of each reagent. NOTE: weigh each reagent separately! After weighing each reagent, add it to the glass flask you have (500 mL or 1 Liter).
4. Once all reagents are weighed and added to the flask, add 500 mL of distilled water to the flask.
5. Close the lid of the flask, add a small strip of autoclave tape.
6. Autoclave the mixture.
7. Take the mixture out of the autoclave, and place inside a biological hood.
8. Open the lids of petri dishes inside the sterile biological hoods and add 25 mL of the mixture to each petri dish using 25 mL pipettes.
9. Cover the plates and allow the agar to solidify (approximately 20-30 minutes). NOTE: do not invert the plates
10. Once the agar solidified, you can now invert the plates, and store them in the fridge (4 °C).

11. Nutrient agar plates are suitable for 1-2 weeks from the date of preparation (beyond this date plates might get dehydrated).

Storage Conditions:

Reagent	Storage
Nutrient Agar Plates	4 °C

Hazards:

Reagent	Hazard
Peptone	None
Yeast Extract	none
Agar	none
Sodium Chloride	none