

## TM 157 – LETHEEN AGAR, MODIFIED

### INTENDED USE

For screening cosmetic products for microbial contamination.

### PRODUCT SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

In the early 40s, Weber and Black recommended the use of lecithin and polysorbate to neutralize the antimicrobial action of the quaternary ammonium compounds. In 1965, the methodology was accepted by AOAC for the antimicrobial assays and extended their use to all the cationic detergents. In 1978, the FDA incorporated it as pre-enrichment medium for every microbial examination of cosmetics. Lethen Agar, Modified is used to partially inactivate the preservatives in cosmetics being analyzed for the microbial content. This medium was originally recommended by APHA for use in microbial testing of water.

### COMPOSITION

Ingredients	Gms / Ltr
Peptone	10.000
Tryptone	10.000
Beef extract	3.000
Yeast extract	2.000
Sodium chloride	5.000
Lecithin	1.000
Polysorbate 80	7.000
Dextrose (Glucose)	1.000
Sodium bisulphite	0.100
Agar	15.000

### PRINCIPLE

This medium consists of Peptone, tryptone, Beef extract and yeast extract which provide nitrogenous and carbonaceous compounds, long chain amino acids, vitamins and trace elements to the microorganisms. Incorporation of lecithin and polysorbate 80 to the medium enables the recovery of bacteria from materials containing residues of disinfectant compounds or preservatives used in cosmetics. Polysorbate 80 is added to nullify phenolic compounds, hexachlorophene, and formalin and along with lecithin neutralizes ethyl alcohol. Lecithin also neutralizes quaternary ammonium compounds present in the cosmetics. Sodium chloride maintains the osmotic balance of the medium.

### INSTRUCTION FOR USE

- Dissolve 54.1 grams in 1000 ml distilled water.
- Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely.
- Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 psi pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C.
- Mix well and pour into sterile petri plates.

### QUALITY CONTROL SPECIFICATIONS



**Appearance of Powder** : Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder.  
**Appearance of prepared medium** : Yellow coloured, clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in petri plates.  
**pH (at 25°C)** : 7.2 ± 0.2

**INTERPRETATION**

Cultural characteristics observed after incubation.

Microorganism	ATCC	Inoculum (CFU/ml)	Growth	Recovery	Incubation Temperature	Incubation Period
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	25922	50-100	Luxuriant	>=70%	35-37°C	18-48 Hours
<i>Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus</i>	25923	50-100	Luxuriant	>=70%	35-37°C	18-48 Hours
<i>Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus</i>	6538	50-100	Good-luxuriant	>=50%	35-37°C	18-48 Hours

**PACKAGING:**

In pack size of 500 gm bottles.

**STORAGE**

Dehydrated powder, hygroscopic in nature, store in a dry place, in tightly-sealed containers between 2-8°C and protect from direct sunlight. Under optimal conditions, the medium has a shelf life of 4 years. When the container is opened for the first time, note the time and date on the label space provided on the container. After the desired amount of medium has been taken out replace the cap tightly to protect from hydration.

**Product Deterioration:** Do not use if they show evidence of microbial contamination, discoloration, drying or any other signs of deterioration.

**DISPOSAL**

After use, prepared plates, specimen/sample containers and other contaminated materials must be sterilized before discarding.

**REFERENCES**

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4. Isenberg, H.D. Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook 2nd Edition.
5. Jorgensen, J.H., Pfaller, M.A., Carroll, K.C., Funke, G., Landry, M.L., Richter, S.S and Warnock., D.W. (2015) Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 11th Edition. Vol. 1.
6. Madden J. M. and Dallas W. S., 1984, Bacteriological Analytical Manual, 6th Ed., AOAC, Arlington, Va.
7. Smart R. and Spooner D. F., 1972, J. Soc. Cosmet. Chem., 23:721.
8. Weber and Black, 1948, Soap Sanitary Chem., 24:134-139.
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 GMP Good Manufacturing Practices Certified	 Best Before	 Quantity	 Catalogue Number	 Manufacturer
 Temperature Unit	 Lot / Batch Number	 Consults Instructions for Use	 QR Code	

**NOTE:** Please consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for information regarding hazards and safe handling Practices.

**\*For Lab Use Only**  
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