**CHROMagar™ Staph aureus**

**MEDIUM PURPOSE**
Chromogenic medium for isolation and direct differentiation of *Staphylococcus aureus* in clinical and industrial samples.

**Food Industry:** Human beings are the main reservoir of *S. aureus.* A carrier contaminates the surrounding environment when coughing, sneezing and by touching food with a hand. It is often found in the environment and on food preparation surfaces and also in certain uncooked foods (dairy products, salads, sandwiches...). It is important to check the presence of *S. aureus* before and after the foodstuff sterilisation process.

**Clinical relevance:** *S. aureus* is the leading cause of skin and soft tissue infections and can also cause serious infections such as bloodstream infections, pneumonia, or bone and joint infections.

**COMPOSITION**
The product is composed of a powder base (B).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Pack</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total g/L</td>
<td>82.5 g/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition g/L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agar 15.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peptone and yeast extract 40.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salts 25.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromogenic mix 2.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspect</td>
<td>Powder Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORAGE</td>
<td>15/30 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL MEDIA pH</td>
<td>6.9 +/- 0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PREPARATION (Calculation for 1 L)**

**Step 1**
- Disperse slowly 82.5 g of powder base in 1 L of purified water.
- Stir until agar is well thickened.
- Autoclave at 110 °C during 5 min.

DO NOT AUTOCLAVE AT 121°C. DO NOT HEAT LONGER THAN 5 MIN.

**Step 2**
- Cool in a water bath to 45-50 °C.
- Swirl or stir gently to homogenize.
- Pour medium into sterile Petri dishes.
- Let it solidify and dry.

**Storage**
- Store in the dark before use.
- Prepared media plates can be kept for one day at room temperature.
- Plates can be stored for up to one month under refrigeration (2/8 °C) if properly prepared and protected from light, dehydration and microbial contamination.
**SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND HANDLING**

CHROMagar™ Staph aureus can be used with the following specimens:
- In clinical field: stools, nasal swab, skin, sputum, throat and wounds.
- In food industry, veterinary and environmental field: materials, pets, livestock, poultry, bakery, eggs, dairy and milk powder, meat and processed and raw food.

Sampling and transport equipment must be used in accordance with the recommendations of their suppliers for the conservation of *Staphylococcus aureus*.

**MATERIAL REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED**

Standard microbiological laboratory material for culture media preparation, control, streaking, incubation and waste disposal.

**INOCULATION**

Related samples are inoculated by direct streaking on the plate.
- If the agar plate has been refrigerated, allow to warm to room temperature before inoculation.
- Streak sample onto plate.
- Incubate at 35-37 °C for 18-24 h, in aerobic conditions.

**INTERPRETATION**

Qualitative reading and interpretation of the Petri dishes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microorganism</th>
<th>Typical colony appearance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>S. aureus</em></td>
<td>pink to mauve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other bacteria</td>
<td>inhibited, colourless, blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PERFORMANCE**

In the following study, 2000 samples (wounds, sputum, nasal and rectal swabs...) were tested, being positive 310 after 24 h incubation at 37 °C in an aerobic atmosphere.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Microorganism</th>
<th>Typical colony appearance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>S. aureus</em></td>
<td>mauve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>E. coli</em></td>
<td>inhibited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>E. faecalis</em></td>
<td>inhibited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIMITATIONS AND COMPLEMENTARY TESTS**

Note: If you focus on direct detection of MRSA strains, it can be obtained using our selective medium called CHROMagar™ MRSA.
- Confirmation tests such as latex agglutination and catalase can be performed directly from the plates on suspected colonies.
- Confirmation tests such as latex agglutination and catalase can be performed directly from the plates on suspected colonies.
- The final identification must be confirmed by biochemical tests (ex: hydrolysis of Hippurate, CAMP test), immunological tests (ex: latex agglutination) or by mass spectrophotometry (ex: Mal-di-Tof). They can be done directly from the suspicious colonies observed on the medium.

**QUALITY CONTROL**

Please perform Quality Control according to the use of the medium and the local QC regulations and norms.

Good preparation of the medium can be tested, isolating the following ATCC strains:

- *S. aureus* ATCC® 43300 → mauve
- *S. aureus* ATCC® 25923 → mauve
- *S. saprophyticus* ATCC® 15305 → turquoise blue
- *E. coli* ATCC® 25922 → inhibited
- *E. faecalis* ATCC® 29212 → inhibited

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

- For Research Use Only (RUO). Not for use in diagnostic procedures.
- This laboratory product should be used only by trained personnel (healthcare professional, etc). Wear appropriate protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection and handle appropriately with procedures and good laboratory practices.
- Use of the medium may be difficult for people who have problems recognising colours.
- Culture media should not be used as manufacturing material or components.
- Do not ingest or inhale the product.
- Do not use the product after the expiry date.
- Do not use the product if it shows any evidence of contamination or any sign of deterioration (compacted powder, color change, ...).
- Do not use the product if the packaging is damaged.
- Any change or modification in the production procedure may affect the results.
- Any change or modification of the required storage temperature may affect the performance of the product.
- Unappropriate storage may affect the shelf life of the product. Recap the bottles/vials tightly after each preparation and keep them in a low humidity environment, protected from moisture and light.
- Do not use the culture medium poured into a petri dish after a first use.
- After opening the bottles and with an appropriate conservation, open bottles can be used under the same conditions until each product’s expiry date.
- Reading and interpretation should be performed using isolated colonies.
- Some precipitates may be observed in the agar but these do not affect the performance of the product.
• Interpretation of the test results should be made taking into consideration colonial and microscopic morphology and if necessary, the results of any other tests performed.
• Laboratory, chemical or biohazardous wastes must be handled and discarded in accordance with all local and national regulations.
• For hazard and precaution recommendations related to some chemical components in this medium, please refer to the pictogram(s) mentioned on the labels. The Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is available on www.chromagar.com
• Any incident or complaint related to the environment must be declared to the manufacturer at the following email address: chromagar@chromagar.com
• Any serious incident occurring in connection with the environment must be declared to the competent authorities and to the manufacturer at the following email address: chromagar@chromagar.com

DISPOSAL OF WASTE
After use, all plates and any other contaminated materials must be sterilized or disposed of by appropriate internal procedures and in accordance with local legislations. Plates can be destroyed by autoclaving at 121 °C for at least 20 minutes.

LITERATURE REFERENCES
Please refer to our website page «Publications» for scientific publications about this particular product.
Web link: http://www.chromagar.com/publication.php

IFU/LABEL INDEX
REF Catalogue reference
Consult instructions for use
Quantity of powder sufficient for X liters of media
Expiry date
Required storage temperature
Store away from humidity
Protect from light
Manufacturer