

# Instructions for Use

## CRITERION™ STARCH AGAR

<a href="#">Cat. no. C7010</a>	CRITERION™ Starch Agar	50gm
<a href="#">Cat. no. C7011</a>	CRITERION™ Starch Agar	500gm
<a href="#">Cat. no. C7012</a>	CRITERION™ Starch Agar	2kg
<a href="#">Cat. no. C7013</a>	CRITERION™ Starch Agar	10kg
Cat. no. C7014	CRITERION™ Starch Agar	50kg

## INTENDED USE

Hardy Diagnostics CRITERION™ Starch Agar is used for cultivating microorganisms being tested for starch hydrolysis.

This dehydrated culture medium is a raw material intended to be used in the making of prepared media products, which will require further processing, additional ingredients, or supplements.

## SUMMARY

Starch Agar was originally formulated in order to cultivate *Neisseria*. Superior media have been developed for the isolation of *Neisseria* spp. since the original Starch Agar formulation was created in 1915. Currently, Starch Agar Medium for *Pseudomonas* and Starch Agar with Bromcresol Purple are modifications of Starch Agar used for maintenance of *Pseudomonas* cultures.

Beef extract provides the nitrogen, vitamins, carbon and amino acids in Starch Agar. Starch Agar reacts with Gram's Iodine to give a blue color. Organisms hydrolyzing starch through amylase production will produce a clearing around the isolate while the remaining medium is blue. Agar is a solidifying agent.

## FORMULA

Gram weight per liter:	25.0gm/L
Soluble Starch	10.0gm
Beef Extract	3.0gm
Agar	12.0gm

Final pH 7.5 +/- 0.2 at 25°C.

\* Adjusted and/or supplemented as required to meet performance criteria.

## STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

Store the sealed bottle(s) containing dehydrated culture medium at 2-30°C. Dehydrated culture medium is very hygroscopic. Keep lid tightly sealed. Protect dehydrated culture media from moisture and light. The dehydrated culture media should be discarded if it is not free-flowing or if the color has changed from its original light beige.

Store the prepared culture media at 2-8°C.

The expiration date on the product label applies to the product in its intact packaging when stored as directed. The product may be used and tested up to the expiration date on the product label and incubated for the recommended incubation times as stated below.

Refer to the document "[Storage](#)" for more information.

## PRECAUTIONS

This product may contain components of animal origin. Certified knowledge of the origin and/or sanitary state of the animals does not guarantee the absence of transmissible pathogenic agents. Therefore, it is recommended that these products be treated as potentially infectious, and handle observing the usual universal blood precautions. Do not ingest, inhale, or allow to come into contact with skin.

This product is for laboratory use only. It is to be used only by adequately trained and qualified laboratory personnel. Observe approved biohazard precautions and aseptic techniques. All laboratory specimens should be considered infectious and handled according to "standard precautions." Refer to the document "[Guidelines for Isolation Precautions](#)" from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For additional information regarding specific precautions for the prevention of the transmission of all infectious agents from laboratory instruments and materials, and for recommendations for the management of exposure to infectious disease, refer to CLSI document M29: *Protection of Laboratory Workers from Occupationally Acquired Infections*.

Sterilize all biohazard waste before disposal.

Refer to the document "[Precautions When Using Media](#)" for more information.

## METHOD OF PREPARATION FOR DEHYDRATED CULTURE MEDIA

1. Suspend 25.0gm of the dehydrated culture media in 1 liter of distilled or deionized water.
2. Heat to boiling and mix to dissolve completely.
3. Sterilize in the autoclave at 121°C. for 15 minutes.
4. Cool to 45-50°C.
5. Dispense into sterile petri dishes as desired.

## PROCEDURE AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

For information on procedures and interpretation of results, consult listed references or refer to the prepared media Instructions for Use (IFU) for Cat. No. G294.

## LIMITATIONS

It is recommended that biochemical, immunological, molecular, or mass spectrometry testing be performed on colonies from pure culture for complete identification.

Some formulations may require a settling period before pH testing of the prepared medium. If the pH is tested

immediately after preparation and is out of specification, retest the medium after 24 hours to obtain final pH results. Always take pH reading at room temperature.

Since the nutritional requirements of organisms vary, some strains may be encountered that fail to grow or grow poorly on this medium.

Refer to the document "[Limitations of Procedures and Warranty](#)" for more information.

## MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

Standard microbiological supplies and equipment such as autoclaves, incinerators, and incubators, etc., are not provided.

## QUALITY CONTROL

Hardy Diagnostics tests each lot of commercially manufactured media using appropriate quality control microorganisms and quality specifications as outlined on the Certificate of Analysis (CofA) and the CLSI document M22-A3 *Quality Assurance for Commercially Prepared Microbiological Culture Media*. The following microorganisms are routinely used for testing at Hardy Diagnostics:

Test Organisms	Inoculation Method*	Incubation			Results
		Time	Temperature	Atmosphere	
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> ATCC® 6633	A	40-48hr	35°C	Aerobic	Growth; positive starch hydrolysis
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC® 25922	A	40-48hr	35°C	Aerobic	Growth; negative starch hydrolysis
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC® 25923	B	40-48hr	35°C	Aerobic	Growth; negative starch hydrolysis

\* Refer to the document "[Inoculation Procedures for Media QC](#)" for more information.

## USER QUALITY CONTROL

Users of dehydrated culture media should perform QC testing in accordance with applicable government regulatory agencies, and in compliance with accreditation requirements. Hardy Diagnostics recommends end users check for signs of contamination and deterioration and, if dictated by laboratory quality control procedures or regulation, perform quality control testing to demonstrate growth or a positive reaction and to demonstrate inhibition or a negative reaction, if applicable. Hardy Diagnostics quality control testing is documented on the certificate of analysis (CofA) available from Hardy Diagnostics [Certificate of Analysis](#) website. In addition, refer to the following document "[Finished Product Quality Control Procedures](#)," for more information on QC or see the reference(s) for more specific information.

## PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

CRITERION™ Starch Agar powder should appear homogeneous, free-flowing, and light beige in color. The prepared media should appear slightly opalescent without significant precipitate, and light amber in color.

## REFERENCES

1. Jorgensen., et al. *Manual of Clinical Microbiology*, American Society for Microbiology, Washington, D.C.
2. Tille, P., et al. *Bailey and Scott's Diagnostic Microbiology*, C.V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, MO.
3. Isenberg, H.D. *Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook*, Vol. I, II & III. American Society for Microbiology, Washington, D.C.

4. Vedder. 1915. *J. Infect. Dis.* ; 16:385.

5. MacFaddin, J.F. 1985. *Media for Isolation, Cultivation, Identification, Maintenance of Bacteria*, Vol. I. Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, MD.

6. Atlas, R. 1993. *Handbook of Microbiological Media*, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL.

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IFU-10263[A]



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[Ordering Information](#)

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