



## HiCrome Candida Differential Agar

M1297A

HiCrome Candida Differential Agar is recommended for rapid isolation and identification of *Candida* species from mixed cultures.

### Composition\*\*

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Peptone, special	15.000
Yeast extract	4.000
Dipotassium hydrogen phosphate	1.000
Chromogenic mixture	7.220
Chloramphenicol	0.500
Agar	15.000
Final pH ( at 25°C)	6.3±0.2

\*\*Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

### Directions

Suspend 42.72 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat, to boiling, to dissolve the medium completely. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE. Cool to 50°C and pour into sterile Petri plates.

### Principle And Interpretation

Perry and Miller (1) reported that *Candida albicans* produces an enzyme b -N-acetyl- galactosaminidase and according to Rousselle et al (2) incorporation of chromogenic or fluorogenic hexosaminidase substrates into the growth medium helps in identification of *C.albicans* isolates directly on primary isolation. HiCrome Candida Differential Agar is a selective and differential medium, which facilitates rapid isolation of yeasts from mixed cultures and allows differentiation of *Candida* species namely *C.albicans*, *C.krusei*, *C.tropicalis* and *C.glabrata* on the basis of colouration and colony morphology. On this medium results are obtained within 48 hours and it is useful for the rapid and presumptive identification of common yeasts in Mycology and Clinical Microbiology Laboratory.

Peptone special and yeast extract provides nitrogenous, carbonaceous compounds and other essential growth nutrients. Phosphate buffers the medium well. Chloramphenicol suppresses the accompanying bacterial flora. *C.albicans* appear as light green coloured smooth colonies, *C.tropicalis* appear as blue to metallic blue coloured raised colonies. *C.glabrata* colonies appear as cream to white smooth colonies, while *C.krusei* appear as purple fuzzy colonies.

### Quality Control

#### Appearance

Cream to beige homogeneous free flowing powder

#### Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

#### Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light amber coloured, clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

#### Reaction

Reaction of 4.27% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 6.3±0.2

#### pH

6.10-6.50

#### Cultural Response

M1297A: Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 30°C for 40-48 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery	Colour of Colony
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<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 10231	50-100	good-luxuriant	$\geq 50\%$	light green
<i>Candida glabrata</i> ATCC 15126	50-100	good-luxuriant	$\geq 50\%$	cream to white
<i>Candida krusei</i> ATCC 24408	50-100	good-luxuriant	$\geq 50\%$	purple, fuzzy
<i>Candida tropicalis</i> ATCC 750	50-100	good-luxuriant	$\geq 50\%$	blue to purple
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	$\geq 10^3$	inhibited	0%	
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	$\geq 10^3$	inhibited	0%	

### Storage and Shelf Life

Store dehydrated powder and prepared medium at 2-8°C. Use before expiry period on the label.

### Reference

1. Perry J. L. and Miller G. R., 1987, J. Clin. Microbiol., 25: 2424 -2425.
2. Rousselle P., Freydiere A., Couillerot P., de Montclos H. and Gille Y., 1994, J. Clin. Microbiol. 32:3034-3036.

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