ESCULIN IRON AGAR

For the confirmation of Enterococci in water

TYPICAL FORMULA (G/L)

Esculin	1
Ferric ammonium citrate	0,5
Agar	15

PREPARATION

Suspend 16.5g in 1000 ml of cold distilled water. Heat to dissolve, distribute and sterilise by autoclaving at 121°C for 15 minutes. Cool to 50°C and distribute into 55-60 mm sterile petri dishes to obtain a layer of 4-5 mm.

final pH 7.1 ± 0.2

DESCRIPTION

Esculin Iron Agar is used for the confirmation of enterococci cultivated onto MF solid media by means of esculin test. Enterococci hydrolyse esculin to form esculetin and glucose; esculetin combines with ferric ammonium citrate to form black or dark brown complex.

TECHNIQUE

For the confirmation of the colonies cultivated on Slanetz & Bartley Agar or other medium during the MF technique for liquid samples, transfer the membrane, after suitable incubation time, onto a plate of Esculin Iron Agar. Incubate at 41°C for 20 minutes. Count as Enterococci the colonies that develop a dark brown or black halo.

USER QUALITY ASSURANCE (37°C-24 AND 48 H)

Positive control

E.faecalis ATCC 29212*: good growth with blackening of medium around the colonies;

STORAGE

Dehydrated medium: 10-30°C

User prepared plates: up to 7 days at 2-8°C

PACKAGING

4014821	**Esculin Iron Agar**	**100 g (6,1 l)**
4014822	**Esculin Iron Agar**	**500 g (30,3 l)**