

# MAST® Culture Media and Supplements

## Technical Information Sheet

Product Code DM 100



## Blood Agar Base (B.A.B.)

A general purpose medium that gives typical haemolytic reactions when the medium is supplemented with sterile defibrinated blood.

### 1. Description

Mast Blood Agar Base can be used without enrichment for the isolation and cultivation of many organisms. Enriched with blood, it gives good growth of fastidious organisms and clearly demonstrates typical haemolytic activity. It may be used in the preparation of

heated blood ("chocolate") agar, which is especially suitable for the cultivation of *Haemophilus* spp. and *Neisseria* spp. It has been shown to be superior to several other blood agar bases available.<sup>1</sup>

### 2. Technical Formula\*

Formula	grams per litre
Peptone Mixture	16.0
Yeast extract	2.0
D-glucose	0.5
NaCl	7.0
Agar	12.0
<b>pH approx. 7.3</b>	

### 3. Directions

1. Suspend by swirling 37.5g of powder in 1 litre or the contents of the sachet in the stated volume of distilled or deionised water.
2. Autoclave at 121°C (15p.s.i.) for 15 minutes.
3. Thoroughly mix before pouring

### 4. In Use

#### "Blood Agar"

Cool the base to about 50°C and add aseptically 5-7% sterile defibrinated blood. Agitate gently to disperse the blood and pour.

#### "Chocolate Agar"

Add 7% defibrinated blood to the base at 75°C and maintain at this temperature for 10 minutes. Agitate gently and pour. Alternatively, heated blood plates may be prepared by holding poured plates at 55°C for 1-2 hours.

### 5. References

1. Shearing G, Johnstone GF. *J Med Lab Technol.* 1974; 31: 135-40.





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\*Formulation may be modified to meet performance criteria

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