

Media Type - Nutrient agar

This media is a highly nutritious, non-selective agar containing all the essential nutrients, vitamins, amino acid, carbon and nitrogen source which support the growth of various types of bacteria and fungi.

Primary use: A general-purpose medium used for the cultivation of non-fastidious microorganisms.

Technical characteristics:

The typical medium composition:

Typical formulation:	g/ltr
'Lab-Lemco' powder	1
Yeast extract	2
Peptone	5
Sodium chloride	5
Agar	15

Fresh pH 7.4 ± 0 .

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Applications: Nutrient Agar is a general purpose, non-selective nutritious media which allows maximum recovery of delicate microorganisms without affecting their haemolytic reactions. Media can be used to subculture microorganisms for maintenance purposes or to check the purity of subcultures from isolation plates prior to biochemical or serological tests.

Nutrient Agar contains a concentration of 1.5% agar to permit the addition of up to 10% blood or other biological fluid (such as serum or egg yolk), as required for cultivation of fastidious microorganisms.

Appearance: The prepared media is pale straw to straw in colour with a slightly opaque appearance.

Organisms and morphology:

Microorganism	Observational appearance
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	1-2 mm White / straw colonies
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	1-3 mm Straw colonies
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	1-3 mm Straw colonies
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1-3 mm Straw colonies
<i>Salmonella enteritidis</i>	1-3 mm Straw colonies

Typical incubation parameters: As nutrient agar is a general-purpose medium, it can be incubated at differing temperatures depending on the target microorganism. Typically, incubation range are within 37 ± 2 °C for 24 ± 2 hours.

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