



TAYLOR LYSINE DECARBOXYLASE BROTH

Dehydrated culture medium and ready-to-use tubes



Taylor Lysine Decarboxylase Broth – from the left: uninoculated tube, *P. vulgaris* Lys -, *S. Enteritidis* Lys +

1 - INTENDED USE

The medium is used, together with other biochemical tests, for the confirmation of *Salmonella* colonies, isolated from samples of the food chain.

2 - COMPOSITION TYPICAL FORMULA (AFTER RECONSTITUTION WITH 1 L OF WATER) *

Yeast extract	3.000 g
Glucose	1.000 g
L-lysine	5.000 g
Bromocresol purple	0.015 g

*the formula may be adjusted and/or supplemented to meet the required performances criteria.

3 - PRINCIPLE OF THE METHOD AND EXPLANATION OF THE PROCEDURE

The amino acid decarboxylation test was developed by Moeller¹ in 1955 for the determination of lysine and ornithine decarboxylase and arginine dehydrolase. Falkow² in 1958 modified Moeller's formula for differentiating *Salmonella* and *Shigella*. Taylor³ in 1961 modified the Falkow medium by omitting the peptone from the formulation, because it is the origin of false positive results given by *Citrobacter* and other bacteria, due to its oxidation and deamination with the formation of an alkaline environment. The good results obtained by Taylor have been confirmed by Bonev⁴ in a comparative study of the three media with 2764 strains of *Enterobacteriaceae*.

Yeast extract provide nitrogen, carbon, vitamins and trace elements for bacterial growth. Glucose is the fermentable carbohydrate and bromocresol purple is the pH indicator. The amino acid L-lysine is included to detect the production of the specific enzyme lysine decarboxylase that removes COOH group from the lysine to produce CO₂ and cadaverine, an alkaline polyamine.

Facultatively fermenting bacteria ferment glucose resulting in the production of acid, which lower the pH of the medium and activate the enzyme lysine decarboxylase. When the medium containing lysine is inoculated with a glucose-fermenting and decarboxylase positive strain, it turns first to yellow for the production of acids then to purple for the production of alkalinity, based on the formation of amines. The positive test for lysine decarboxylase is therefore indicated by the formation of a purple color, the negative test by the presence of a yellow color.

The medium is recommended by ISO 6579⁵ as a confirmatory test for *Salmonella* colonies cultivated on selective medium, together with TSI and urease test.

4- DIRECTIONS FOR DEHYDRATED MEDIUM PREPARATION

Suspend 9 g in 1000 mL of cold purified water. Heat with frequent agitation to dissolve the medium completely. Distribute 2-5 mL in screw-capped tubes, and sterilize by autoclaving at 121°C for 15 minutes. Store prepared tubes for up to 3 months at 2-8°C.

5 - PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Dehydrated medium appearance	whitish, fine, homogeneous, free-flowing powder
Prepared medium appearance	violet, limpid or slightly opalescent
Final pH at 20-25 °C	6.8 ± 0.2

6 - MATERIALS PROVIDED - PACKAGING

Product	Type	REF	Pack
Taylor Lysine Decarboxylase Broth	Dehydrated medium	401367L2	500 g (55.5 L) CND: W0104010101; EDMA:14.01.01.01
Taylor Lysine Decarboxylase Broth	Ready-to-use tubes	551367L	20 x 5 mL Glass tubes, 17x125 mm, flat bottom, aluminium screw-cap. Packaging: cardboard box CND: W0104010206; EDMA:14.01.03

7 - MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

Autoclave, water-bath, sterile microbiological loops or needles, incubator and laboratory equipment as required, Erlenmeyer flasks, ancillary culture media and reagents.

8 - SPECIMENS

The specimens consist of bacteria strains isolated from food sample on Salmonella primary isolation agar and purified on appropriate medium (e.g. Nutrient Agar).

9 - TEST PROCEDURE

With an inoculating needle or loop, transfer one colony into the tube just below the surface of the medium. Incubate the tubes, with the caps tightened, at 37°C for 24 ± 3 hours

10 - READING AND INTERPRETATION

After incubation, observe the presence of growth (turbidity) and the colour change of the medium. Turbidity and a purple colour after incubation indicate a positive reaction (decarboxylation of lysine).





A yellow colour indicates a negative reaction (fermentation of glucose).
The majority of typical *Salmonella* cultures show a positive reaction.

11 - USER QUALITY CONTROL

All manufactured lots of the product are released for sale after the Quality Control has been performed to check the compliance with the specifications. However it is responsibility of the end-user to perform Quality Control testing in accordance with the local applicable regulations, in compliance with accreditation requirements and the experience of the Laboratory. Here below are listed some test strains useful for the quality control.

CONTROL STRAINS	INCUBATION T° / T / ATM	EXPECTED RESULTS
<i>P.vulgaris</i> ATCC 9484	37° / 24 H / A	negative test (yellow colour)
<i>S.enteritidis</i> ATCC 13076	37° / 24 H / A	positive test (purple)

A: aerobic incubation; ATCC is a trademark of American Type Culture Collection

12 - LIMITATIONS OF THE METHOD

- With the tubes held vertically during incubation, the decarboxylase test may show two layers of different colour; shake the tube gently before attempting to make an interpretation.⁶
- Taylor medium with lysine is indicated to differentiate *Citrobacter* (generally negative) from *Salmonella* (generally positive); however *Salmonella* Paratyphi A gives negative reactions (yellow test tube).⁶
- Lysine decarboxylation is one of the tests necessary for the identification of *Salmonella*. The result of the decarboxylation test must be interpreted together with other tests for a correct identification of the strains.

13 - PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

- This product is for microbiological control only; it is to be used by adequately trained and qualified laboratory personnel, observing approved biohazard precautions and aseptic techniques.
- Dehydrated media must be handled with suitable protection. Before use, consult the Safety Data Sheet.
- This culture medium contains raw materials of animal origin. The *ante* and *post mortem* controls of the animals and those during the production and distribution cycle of the raw materials, cannot completely guarantee that this product doesn't contain any transmissible pathogen. Therefore, it is recommended that the culture medium be treated as potentially infectious, and handled observing the usual specific precautions: do not ingest, inhale, or allow to come into contact with skin, eyes, mucous membranes. Download the TSE Statement from the website www.biolifeitaliana.it, describing the measures implemented by Biolife Italiana for the risk reduction linked to infectious animal diseases.
- All laboratory specimens should be considered infectious.
- The laboratory area must be controlled to avoid contaminants such as culture medium or microbial agents.
- Each tube is for single use only; do not transfer or subdivide the tube contents in other containers.
- Be careful when opening screw cap tubes to prevent injury due to breakage of glass.
- Ready-to-use tubes are subject to sterilization by autoclaving.
- Sterilize all biohazard waste before disposal. Dispose the unused medium and the sterilized plates inoculated with samples or microbial strains in accordance with current local legislation.
- Do not use the culture medium as active ingredient for pharmaceutical preparations or as production material intended for human and animal consumption.
- The Certificates of Analysis and the Safety Data Sheet of the product are available on the website www.biolifeitaliana.it.
- The information provided in this document has been defined to the best of our knowledge and ability and represents a guideline for the proper use of the product but without obligation or liability. In all cases existing local laws, regulations and standard procedures must be observed for the examination of samples collected from human and animal organic districts, for environmental samples and for products intended for human or animal consumption. Our information does not relieve our customers from their responsibility for checking the suitability of our product for the intended purpose.

14 - STORAGE CONDITIONS AND SHELF LIFE

Dehydrated medium: upon receipt, store at +10°C /+30°C away from direct light in a dry place. If properly stored, it may be used up to the expiration date. Do not use beyond this date. Avoid opening the bottle in humid places. After use, the container must be tightly closed. Discard the product if the container and/or the cap were damaged or in case of evident deterioration of the powder (colour changes, hardening, large lumps).

Ready-to-use tubes: upon receipt, store tubes in their original pack at 2-8°C away from direct light. If properly stored, the tubes may be used up to the expiration date. Do not use the tubes beyond this date. After opening the box, the tubes can be used up to the expiration date. Opened tubes must be used immediately. Before use, check the integrity of the screw cap. Do not use tubes with signs of deterioration (e.g. microbial contamination, atypical colour, precipitate).

15 - REFERENCES

- Moeller V. Simplified tests for some amino acid decarboxylases and for the arginine dihydrolase system. Acta Pathol Microbiol Scand 1955;36(2):158-72.
- Falkow S. Activity of lysine decarboxylase as an aid identification of *Salmonella* and *Shigella*. Amer J Clin Path 1958; 29: 589-600.
- Taylor, WI. Isolation of Salmonellae from Food Supplies. V. Determination of the Method of Choice for Enumeration of *Salmonella*. Appl Microbiol 1961; 9:487-490.
- Bonev SI, Zakhariyev Z, Gentshev P. Comparative Study of Media for Determination of Lysine Decarboxylase Activity. App Microbiol 1974; 27: 464-468.
- ISO 6579:2017 Microbiology of the food chain — Horizontal method for the detection, enumeration and serotyping of Salmonella —Part 1: Detection of Salmonella spp.
- MacFaddin JF. Media for Isolation-Cultivation-Identification-Maintenance of Medical Bacteria. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins; 1985.

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Description of changes	Date
Revision 1	Updated layout and content	2020/05

Note: minor typographical, grammatical, and formatting changes are not included in the revision history.

