

A medium for rapid cleaning of *Aspergillus cleistothecia*

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Abstract

Aspergillus cleistothecia are usually cleaned of adherent Hülle cells by rolling them on an agar surface, which is a tedious process. We have found that incorporating 0.5 - 1.0 % diatomaceous earth (also called Celite) into 4% agar, as a mild abrasive, helps to speed cleaning about 5-fold (average 10 min reduced to 2 min).

A medium for rapid cleaning of *Aspergillus cleistothecia*

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Aspergillus cleistothecia are usually cleaned of adherent Hülle cells by rolling them on an agar surface, which is a tedious process. We have found that incorporating 0.5 - 1.0 % diatomaceous earth (also called Celite) into 4% agar, as a mild abrasive, helps to speed cleaning about 5-fold (average 10 min reduced to 2 min). The medium may need to be stirred after autoclaving (stir bar sterilized separately to prevent boiling over) to ensure good mixing. Cleaning action is improved by pushing cleistothecium through a groove cut in the agar.

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