

Adjustable platforms for collecting shot asci

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Abstract

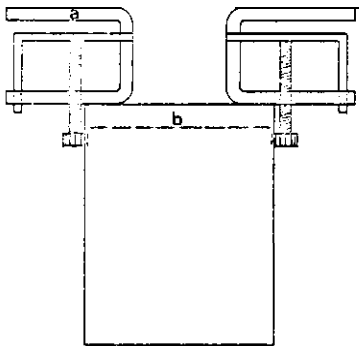
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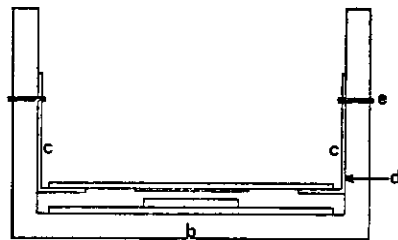
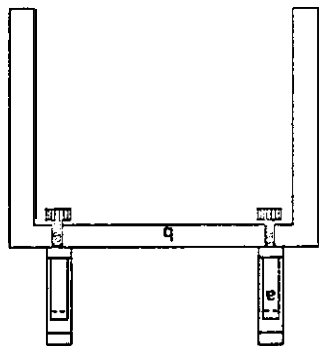
This technique basically follows that of Perkins (*Neurospora Newsl.* 9: 11) with the following modifications: (1) Crosses are made on filter paper strips in tubes containing liquid Westergaard medium. The medium contains 0.2% **sucrose**, compared to the usual 2%. This drastically reduces **conidiation**, while **maintaining** high fertility, and therefore makes the use of fluffy **unnecessary**. Crosses are initiated by the **simultaneous** introduction of each parent as a drop or two of conidial suspension. (This technique was introduced to A. J. F. G. by F. J. de Serres). (2) Low **conidiation** and the use of filter paper permit the removal from the cross tube of all the perithecia. The **paper** can be cut up and placed on slides which are held inverted on **adjustable** platforms over the **agar** collection **slabs**. Two models of platform have been used. (See figures on following page).

Model I has been used extensively for the routine collection of hundreds of **asci**. It consists of two tubing clamps (a), mounted on a **plastic stand** (b) with rapid-hardening epoxy glue. The inverted slide bearing the perithecia is placed **across** the top, and the slide bearing the **agar** collection block is placed **across** the two adjustable arms and racked up into close proximity to the **dehiscing** perithecia. Two **such** devices may be mounted back-to-back on each stand.

Model II is a more recent design and permits adjustment in two dimensions by the use of sliding plastic shelves (c). The shelves



MODEL 1



MODEL 2

G. D. W.

are held in contact with the plastic stand by the use of silicone grease at (d). Under warmer conditions some slippage occurs, which can be prevented by a small rubber band (e).

We wish to thank G. D. White for the drawings. ■ ■ ■ Department of Botany, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, B.C., Canada.