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Recipe for apple-agar embryo collection plates

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

This protocol describes the recipe for apple-agar plates which can be used for embryo collection. Alternatively, grape juice can be used instead of apple juice.

Guidelines

This protocol describes how to make sufficient apple-agar for approximately 10× 90mm Petri dish plates. Once the apple-agar food is decanted, the plates should be left, covered by lids, at room temperature until the food has set and cooled. The plates should then be sealed in an air tight bag and stored at 4°C for a maximum of ~ 6 weeks before use.

The plates should be brought to room temperature before being added to a population cage.

Materials

MATERIALS

☒ Sucrose **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #S7903**

☒ Agar ash 2.0-4.5% **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #A7002**

☒ Methyl-4- hydroxybenzoate **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #H5501**

Safety warnings

- ❗ 1. Care should be taken when dispensing hot apple-agar liquid. Decant liquid into smaller container before pouring into plates to reduce the risk of spillage.
- 2. Read SDS for Methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate prior to use.



- 1 Add 9 g of agar and 10 g sucrose to 300 mL distilled H₂O in a pan.
- 2 Mix well, place pan on heat and bring mixture to boil while stirring continuously.
- 3 Once boiling, turn off heat and add 100 mL apple juice to mixture.
- 4 Allow mixture to cool to ~70 °C and then stir in 2.1 mL of tegosept anti-fungal solution (dissolve Methyl-4- hydroxybenzoate in 95% Ethanol at 150g/L).
- 5 Dispense apple-agar into plates before it sets.