

# A Letheen Agar Base, modified

Letheen Agar is special formulations for the determination of bacterial activity of quaternary ammonium compounds.

The media formulations comply with the recommendations of FDA/BAM (1995).

## Mode of Action

Letheen media are highly nutritious containing Lecithin and Tween® 80 for neutralizing quaternary ammonium compounds. These media are modifications of the AOAC formulae.

Letheen Agar Base is used for the microbiological sampling of environmental surfaces that have been treated with disinfectants.

## Typical Composition (g/litre)

### Letheen Agar Base:

Peptone from meat 10.0; peptone from casein 10.0; meat extract 3.0; yeast extract 2.0; sodium chloride 5.0; D(+) glucose 1.0; lecithin 1.0; sodium bisulfite 0.1; agar-agar 20.0

## Preparation of Letheen Agar

Suspend 52.1 g and 7 ml of Tween® 80 in 1 litre of distilled or demin. water until evenly dispersed. Heat, if necessary, with repeated stirring and boil for 1 minute; autoclave at 121 °C for 15 min. Pour into plates.

pH: 7.2 ± 0.2 at 25 °C.

The plates are turbid and brownish.

Incubation: 24 - 48 hours at 35°C aerobically.

## Experimental Procedure

Depending on the purpose for which the media are used.

## Literature

**FDA Bacteriological Analytical Manual (BAM)**, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (1995), chapter 23: Microbiological Methods for Cosmetics, Letheen Agar (modified) = M 78, Letheen Broth (modified) = M 79.

## Ordering Information

Product	Merck Cat. No.	Pack size
Letheen Agar Base, modified	1.10404.0500	500 g
Tween® 80	8.22187.0500	500 ml



*Staphylococcus epidermidis*  
ATCC 12228

## Quality control

Test strains	Growth
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	good / very good
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> ATCC 29212	good / very good
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853	good / very good
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	good / very good
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> ATCC 12228	good / very good
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i> ATCC 14028	good / very good