

Phenol Red Broth Base

Phenol Red Broth with Carbohydrates

Intended Use

Phenol Red Broth Base and Phenol Red Broth with carbohydrates are used for the determination of fermentation reactions in the differentiation of microorganisms.

Summary and Explanation

The ability of an organism to ferment a specific carbohydrate incorporated in a basal medium, resulting in the production of acid or acid and gas, has been used to characterize a specific species or group of bacteria, aid in the differentiation between genera and aid in species differentiation.^{1,2}

In 1950, Vera recommended using pancreatic digest of casein in fermentation test media.³ She found that casein peptone could be used with the pH indicator phenol red in fermentation tests with a high degree of accuracy.

Principles of the Procedure

Phenol Red Broth Base is a complete medium without added carbohydrate. It is used as a negative control for fermentation studies or as a base for the addition of carbohydrates by the aseptic addition of BBL™ Taxo™ Carbohydrate Discs. Pancreatic digest of casein provides nutrients and is low in

User Quality Control

Identity Specifications

BBL™ Phenol Red Broth Base

Dehydrated Appearance: Fine, homogeneous, free of extraneous material.

Solution: 1.5% solution, soluble in purified water. Solution is medium, orange-red to rose-red, clear to slightly hazy.

Prepared Appearance: Medium, orange-red to rose-red, clear to slightly hazy.

Reaction of 1.5% Solution at 25°C: pH 7.4 ± 0.2

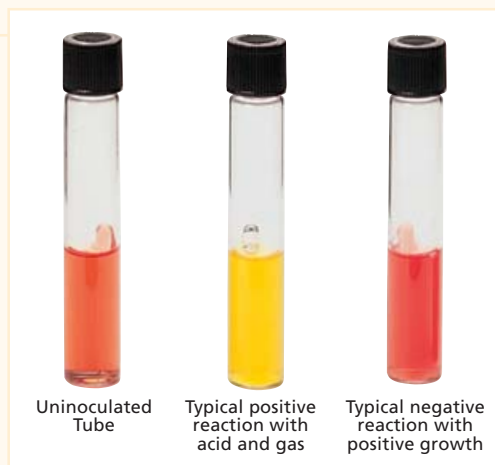
BBL™ Phenol Red Broth with Dextrose or Lactose or Mannitol or Sucrose

Dehydrated Appearance: Fine, homogeneous, free of extraneous material.

Solution: 2.0% solution, soluble in purified water. Solution is medium, orange-red to rose-red, clear to slightly hazy.

Prepared Appearance: Medium, orange-red to rose-red, clear to slightly hazy.

Reaction of 2.0% Solution at 25°C: pH 7.3 ± 0.2 (pH 7.4 ± 0.1 for Sucrose Broth)



Cultural Response

BBL™ Phenol Red Broth Base or Phenol Red Broth with Dextrose or Lactose or Mannitol or Sucrose

Prepare the medium per label directions. Inoculate with fresh cultures and incubate at 35 ± 2°C for 42-48 hours.

ORGANISM	ATCC™	BASE	DEXTRROSE	LACTOSE	MANNITOL	SUCROSE
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	25922	K	AG	AG	AG	
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	33186		A	A		A
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	8427	K	A		K	AG
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	10145	K	K			
<i>Salmonella typhimurium*</i>	14028	K		K		K
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	9199	K	A	K	A	K
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	25923				A	

**S. choleraesuis* subsp. *choleraesuis* serotype Typhimurium

KEY: A = growth with acid (yellow color)
K = growth with alkaline reaction (red color)
G = gas formation

For quality control organisms for prepared tubes of Phenol Red Broth with the various carbohydrates, consult the BBL™ Quality Control and Product Information Manual for Plated and Tubed Media.⁴

fermentable carbohydrate.³ The pH indicator, phenol red, is used to detect acid production.

Phenol Red Broths, prepared with a final concentration of one-half percent carbohydrate, are convenient for the determination of fermentation reactions. Most of the end products of carbohydrate fermentation are organic acids which, in the presence of phenol red, produce a color change in the medium from red to yellow.¹ If gas is produced during the fermentation reaction, it is collected in the inverted Durham tube.

No yellow color should occur in the control tube. If it does, the results cannot be correctly interpreted since acid has been produced without fermentation.

Formulae

BBL™ Phenol Red Broth Base

Approximate Formula* Per Liter

Pancreatic Digest of Casein	10.0	g
Sodium Chloride	5.0	g
Phenol Red	18.0	mg

*Adjusted and/or supplemented as required to meet performance criteria.

BBL™ Phenol Red Carbohydrate Broths

Contain the above ingredients with, per liter, 5.0 g of the specified carbohydrate.

Directions for Preparation from Dehydrated Product

BBL™ Phenol Red Broth Base

1. Dissolve 15 g of the powder in 1 L of purified water.
2. Add carbohydrate (5-10 g), if desired. Agar (0.5-1.0 g) may be added if it is desirable to minimize convection currents in the broth. When agar is added, the medium should be boiled briefly.
3. Dispense in suitable tubes and insert Durham tubes when gas fermentation is to be recorded.
4. Autoclave at 118°C for 15 minutes. Tubes should be packed loosely to ensure free access of steam.
5. Alternatively, the base may be autoclaved and carbohydrates added aseptically as needed.
6. Test samples of the finished product for performance using stable, typical control cultures.

BBL™ Phenol Red Broth with Dextrose or Lactose or Mannitol or Sucrose

1. Dissolve 20 g of the powder in 1 L of purified water. Agar (0.5-1.0 g) may be added if it is desirable to minimize convection currents in the broth. When agar is added, the medium should be boiled briefly.
2. Dispense and insert Durham tubes for detection of gas formation.
3. Autoclave at 118°C for 15 minutes.
4. Test samples of the finished product for performance using stable, typical control cultures.

Procedure

If Taxo Carbohydrate Discs are being used with tubes of Phenol Red Broth Base, aseptically add the appropriate disc to the tubes prior to inoculation. Using a heavy inoculum,

inoculate tubes of media with growth from an 18- to 24-hour pure culture using an inoculating loop. Incubate tubes with loosened caps at 35 ± 2°C for 18-48 hours either in an aerobic or anaerobic atmosphere depending on the organism being evaluated. Incubation up to 30 days may be necessary for a negative result.

Expected Results

Examine the unsupplemented tubes at intervals during the incubation process for growth. If supplemented with carbohydrate, observe for the presence of acid (yellow color) and gas (as evidenced by displacement of the liquid in the Durham tubes).

Consult appropriate references for typical reactions produced by various microbial species.^{1,2,5-7}

References

1. MacFaddin. 2000. *Biochemical tests for identification of medical bacteria*, 3rd ed., Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, Md.
2. Forbes, Sahn and Weissfeld. 1998. *Diagnostic microbiology*, 10th ed. Mosby, Inc., St. Louis, Mo.
3. Vera. 1950. *Am. J. Public Health*, 40:1267.
4. Becton, Dickinson and Co. 2001. *BBL™ quality control and product information manual for plated and tubed media*, BD Diagnostic Systems, Sparks, Md.
5. Ewing. 1986. *Edwards and Ewing's identification of Enterobacteriaceae*, 4th ed. Elsevier Science Publishing Co., New York, N.Y.
6. Holt, Krieg, Sneath, Staley and Williams (ed.). 1994. *Bergey's Manual™ of determinative bacteriology*, 9th ed. Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, Md.
7. Murray, Baron, Pfaller, Tenover and Tenover (ed.). 1999. *Manual of clinical microbiology*, 7th ed. American Society for Microbiology, Washington, D.C.

Availability

BBL™ Phenol Red Broth Base

Cat. No.	211506	Dehydrated – 500 g
	221897	Prepared Tubes (K Tubes) – Pkg. of 10*

BBL™ Phenol Red Dextrose Broth

Cat. No.	211514	Dehydrated – 500 g
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BBL™ Phenol Red Lactose Broth

Cat. No.	211519	Dehydrated – 500 g
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BBL™ Phenol Red Mannitol Broth

Cat. No.	211527	Dehydrated – 500 g
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BBL™ Phenol Red Sucrose Broth

Cat. No.	211533	Dehydrated – 500 g
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BBL™ Phenol Red Broth with Carbohydrates and Durham Tube

Cat. No.	221671	Prepared Tubes with Adonitol – Pkg. of 10*
	221673	Prepared Tubes with Arabinose – Pkg. of 10*
	221675	Prepared Tubes with Cellobiose – Pkg. of 10*
	221677	Prepared Tubes with Dextrose – Pkg. of 10*
	221679	Prepared Tubes with Dulcitol – Pkg. of 10*
	221681	Prepared Tubes with Glycerol – Pkg. of 10*
	221683	Prepared Tubes with Inositol – Pkg. of 10*
	221685	Prepared Tubes with Inulin – Pkg. of 10*
	221687	Prepared Tubes with Lactose – Pkg. of 10*
	221688	Prepared Tubes with Lactose – Ctn. of 100*
	221689	Prepared Tubes with Maltose – Pkg. of 10*
	221691	Prepared Tubes with Mannitol – Pkg. of 10*
	221693	Prepared Tubes with Raffinose – Pkg. of 10*
	221695	Prepared Tubes with Rhamnose – Pkg. of 10*
	221697	Prepared Tubes with Salicin – Pkg. of 10*
	221699	Prepared Tubes with Sorbitol – Pkg. of 10*
	221701	Prepared Tubes with Sucrose – Pkg. of 10*
	221703	Prepared Tubes with Trehalose – Pkg. of 10*
	221705	Prepared Tubes with Xylose – Pkg. of 10*

*Store at 2-8°C.