

Microbiology media and methods

Detection, growth and sterilization.

Disposable flasks

Nalgene www.nalgenunc.com

Reduce the risk of cross-contamination

Nalgene's sterile disposable flasks are made of clear PETG plastic and come with a plain or baffled base, making them suitable for bench-top or shaker table use. The flasks have graduations for volume assessment and are provided with a leak-proof polyethylene screw closure that can be vented with a quarter turn. The flasks are in the Erlenmeyer design and are available in 250, 500 and 2,000 ml capacities.



A throw-away line from Nalgene.

Vitek 2

bioMérieux www.biomerieux.com

Ask an expert

The Vitek 2 Advanced Expert system (AES) is a tool for the rapid detection and interpretation of key resistance mechanisms. It is designed to enable microbiologists to gather the information on which to base therapeutic strategies. The system features automated susceptibility testing for rapid determination of minimum inhibitory concentrations by analysing the growth kinetics of bacteria in the presence of different antibiotic concentrations. A database containing over 20,000 MICs and describing more than 2,000 phenotypes is used to validate and interpret the results of susceptibility tests.

GIBCO OptiPro

Invitrogen www.invitrogen.com

Versatile serum-free medium

OptiPro SFM for virus and recombinant protein production contains no components of animal or human origin, reducing the risk of virus or prion contamination. GIBCO claims that cell growth and virus production are equivalent or superior to those obtained using serum-supplemented systems, and points out that this product's low protein con-

centration ($7.5 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$) facilitates downstream purification. OptiPro sustains the growth of a range of kidney epithelial cell lines and can produce multiple viruses to high titre in multiple kidney-derived cell lines.

ProtoCOL

Synbiosis www.synbiosis.com

Automated colony counter

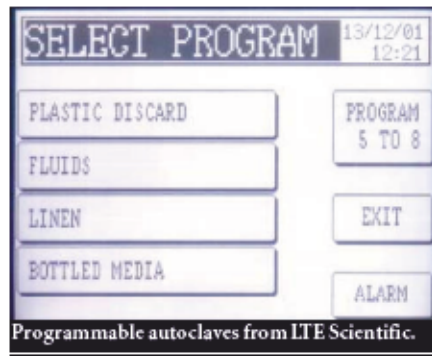
The ProtoCOL automated spiral plate counter generates precise counts of propionibacteria, staphylococci and the yeast, *Malassezia furfur*, from a variety of selective media. It also records details of the sample, including a plate image, data and time, in a printable format. It is especially suitable for use in clinical trials of anti-infective therapies.

LB Agars and Broths

AMRESCO www.amresco-inc.com

Something in the media

LB Agars and Broths for Miller and Lennox formulations are supplied as powdered blends of media and agar conveniently packaged in single-use foil pouches. When the contents of a pouch are dissolved in water and autoclaved, it prepares 1 litre of medium. LB Agars and Broths boast long stability and shelf life and come in convenient pre-measured blends.



Programmable autoclaves from LTE Scientific.

Touchclave

LTE Scientific www.lte-scientific.co.uk

Big and small, autoclaves for all

Touchclave autoclaves are available in sizes from 300 to 7,000 litres. The sterilization cycle features a two-stage air removal phase to conserve power and water. Sub-atmospheric steam flushing and positive pulsation take place prior to steam sterilization, followed by a deep-drying vacuum. Standard features include an integral printer and independent recorder and a diagnostic system to highlight abnormalities in the cycle.

BIO 101 Systems

Qbiogene www.qbiogene.com

Say yes to this line of growth media

This line of growth media includes pre-mixed media for *S. cerevisiae* and *S. pombe* as well as general formulations of YPD/YEPD, YEP, YPAD, YE, YES and ME mixtures. Synthetic and minimal defined media formulations and custom formulations for specialized experiments are also available. The products can be supplied as media capsules, pre-mixed powders in pouches, bottles or drums, liquid media and pre-poured plates.

These notes are compiled in the Nature office from information provided by the manufacturers.