# Artificial Seawater Basal Stock Solution for Culturing Marine Algae

1. SCOPE AND APPLICATION

    1.1. This method is based on Maloney, T. E., W. E. Miller, and D. T. Specht, 1974. The Marine Algal Assay Procedure: Bottle Test. National Environmental Research Center Office of Research and Development. U.S. EPA, Corvallis, Oregon. p.8. It is used as the basic media without nutrients for culturing *Dunaliella tertiolecta*, an algal species that is used in marine algal assay tests.

2. SUMMARY OF METHOD

    2.1. Chemicals are weighed and added to (dissolved in) deionized (DI) water. Media is stored and filtered prior to use.

        2.1.1. This medium must be filtered through a 0.45 micron (µm) filter before it is used as a rinse or before it is enriched with nutrients. Refer to SOP TA-03.04.

    2.2. Interferences include contaminated glassware, chemicals, or deionized water. Improperly weighed constituents can also cause interference.

3. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

    3.1. Autoclave

    3.2. Mettler Toledo 403 TS/00 Balance S/N B815673069, calibrated per SOP TA-06.34

    3.3. 12 L Wide-mouth glass carboy

    3.4. 6 L Erlenmeyer flask, 2 (optional)

    3.5. Magnetic stirrer

    3.6. 5 cm Magnetic stir-bar

    3.7. Magnetic stir-bar remover

    3.8. 4 x 4-inch large weigh boats

    3.9. 1 L Graduated cylinder

    3.10. Funnel

    3.11. Wash bottle for autoclaved DI water

    3.12. Parafilm®

    3.13. Permanent black marker

    3.14. Labeling tape

    3.15. Computer with access to the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)



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## 4. REAGENTS AND STANDARDS

4.1. Autoclaved DI water (or autoclaved distilled water)

4.2. Basal stock compounds; minimum “ACS” grade (or equivalent “Reagent” grade)

4.2.1. Sodium chloride

4.2.2. Sodium sulfate

4.2.3. Sodium bicarbonate

4.2.4. Potassium chloride

4.2.5. Potassium bromide

4.2.6. Boric acid

4.2.7. Magnesium chloride

4.2.8. Strontium chloride

4.2.9. Calcium chloride

## 5. PREPARATION OF BASAL STOCK SOLUTION

5.1. Add 8 L of autoclaved DI water to the 12 L carboy. Put the stir-bar into the carboy and place on the magnetic stirrer. Turn the stirrer on.

5.1.1. For ease, salts can begin mixing in two separate 6 L flasks on stir plates. Then, poured into the 12 L carboy after salts are dissolved.

5.1.2. Utilize a clean funnel to prevent salt spillage. A 1 L graduated cylinder should be used for measuring if splitting between two Erlenmeyer flasks.

5.2. Weigh out each basal salt compound individually in the order and amount listed below. As they are weighed, add each compound to the carboy. Use the autoclaved DI water wash bottle to rinse any salts that “cling” to the weigh boat into the carboy.

| **Salt** | **Amount** | **Salt** | **Amount** |
|---|---|---|---|
| NaCl | 241.47 ± 0.01 g | $H_3BO_3$ | 0.31 ± 0.01 g |
| $Na_2SO_4$ | 40.31 ± 0.01 g | $MgCl_2•6H_2O$ | 109.11 ± 0.01 g |
| $NaHCO_3$ | 1.95 ± 0.01 g | $SrCl_2•6H_2O$ | 0.41 ± 0.01 g |
| KCl | 6.79 ± 0.01 g | $CaCl_2•2H_2O$ | 15.12 ± 0.01 g |
| KBr | 1.03 ± 0.01 g | | |

5.3. As the salts are dissolving, gradually add 4 L of autoclaved DI water to the carboy. This makes a 30 parts per thousand (ppth) basal solution.

5.4. When the salts have completely dissolved (after about an hour), remove the carboy from the stirrer. Cover the top of the carboy with Parafilm®.



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5.5. Label the carboy with "ASW Basal Medium, 30%," the batch number (preparation date in mm/dd/yy format), the analyst's initials, and an expiration date of one year from prep date.

5.6. Store in the walk-in refrigerator for up to one year at > 0 to ≤ 6 ˚C. Solution is generally used within three months.

5.7. Record batch information in LIMS Standard Prep Tracker.

6. DATA ARCHIVAL

6.1. Use a black, waterproof pen for all bench sheets and logbooks.

6.2. Record the preparation in LIMS Standard Prep Tracker.

6.3. To correct raw data entries, place a single line through the incorrect or illegible entry, write the corrected entry near the error, date and initial the correction. Do not overwrite entries.

6.3.1. The corrected entry is written as near as possible to the error or in the comment box on the appropriate bench sheet.

6.3.2. If the correction requires an explanation, write a comment and reference the error with a letter. Initial and date the explanation. Do not attempt to put all information (correction and comments) into a small space.

6.3.3. Use sequential alphabetical annotation to identify errors and corresponding comments (use A for first error and use A for corresponding explanatory comment; use B for second error, etc.).

7. QUALITY CONTROL

7.1. Glassware is washed, autoclaved, and stored in accordance with DEP SOP BG-05 to minimize the potential for contamination of the stock solution.

7.2. Basal stock components are weighed out to within 0.01 g of the amounts needed. DEP SOP TA-06.34 is used to ensure accurate measurements are made.

7.3. The medium is filtered through a 0.45 micron filter to remove potential contaminants via the stock salt compounds. Coated salts can also contribute particulates, so filtering removes any potential non-dissolved solids.

8. SAFETY/HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

8.1. Proper laboratory protection, including lab hood or ventilation system, lab coat, gloves and safety glasses, is required when working with chemicals and unprocessed samples.

8.2. Refer to the Laboratory Health and Safety Manual and Hazardous Waste Management.



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8.3. Read MSDS information for reagent handling and disposal.

9. REFERENCES

9.1. Maloney, T. T., W. E. Miller and D. T. Specht. 1974. *The Marine Algal Assay Procedure: Bottle Test. National Environmental Research Center Office of Research and Development EPA*, Corvallis, Oregon. p.8.

9.2. DEP SOP TA-06.34, *Calibration and Use of Mettler Toledo 403TS/00 Balance*

9.3. DEP SOP TA-03.04, *Preparation of Artificial Seawater (ASW) Medium for Culturing Dunaliella tertiolecta*

9.4. DEP SOP BG-05, *Biology Wash Party Procedures*

9.5. DEP Laboratory Quality Manual https://floridadep.gov/dear/florida-dep-laboratory/content/dep-laboratory-quality-assurance-manual-and-sops

9.6. DEP Laboratory Health and Safety Manual https://www.floridadep.net/resources/health-safety-manual

9.7. MSDS Information Sheets

**APPENDIX OF CHANGES**

12/21/2007 Added Scope and Application; Summary of Method and Appendix of Changes.

11/17/2008 Added Interference and Reference sections.

08/14/2014 Reformatted SOP.

02/10/2015 Formatted for 508 compliance.

08/17/2015 Links updated.

09/14/2016 Links updated.

09/20/2017 Added expiration date to label; corrected *Tox Record of Preparation* to *AGP Record of Preparation*; added LIMS Standard Prep Tracker to record keeping steps.

08/30/2018 Updated balance information. Updated links. Changed font to Calibri

09/04/2019 Updated links.

09/04/2020 Updated equipment section. Update data archival section with universal language. Updated links.

07/07/2021 Updated links and checked for grammar.

09/07/2022 Check links and SOP mentions. Added tip for stirring.

09/08/2023 Checked links. Added funnel tip and flasks to materials.



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