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2ND PROFESSIONAL YEAR  
(VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGY)

**TOPIC :**

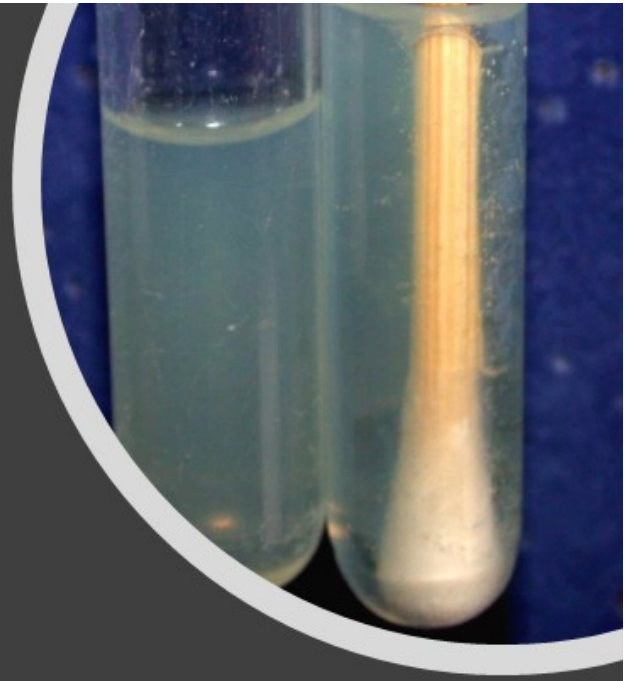
*METHODS OF INOCULATION,  
CULTIVATION OF AEROBIC AND  
ANAEROBIC BACTERIA*

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# CULTURE METHODS

- Bacteria are grown (cultured) for identification.
- By suitable procedures they have to be grown individually (isolated) on culture media and thus obtained as pure for study.

**Colony :**

Macroscopically visible collection of millions of bacteria originating from a single bacterial cell.

# History

- Louis Pasteur first to use media – urine or meat broth
- Robert Koch used cooked cut potato – earliest solid medium
- Gelatin – not satisfactory
  - liquefy at 24°C

# Culture Methods

Purpose of culture :

- To isolate bacteria in pure cultures.
- To demonstrate their properties.
- To obtain sufficient growth for preparation of antigens & for other tests.
- For typing bacterial isolates.
- To conduct antibiotic sensitivity.
- To estimate viable counts.
- To maintain stock cultures.
- To generate strains of interest
- To carry out recombinant protein expression

# Culturing methods

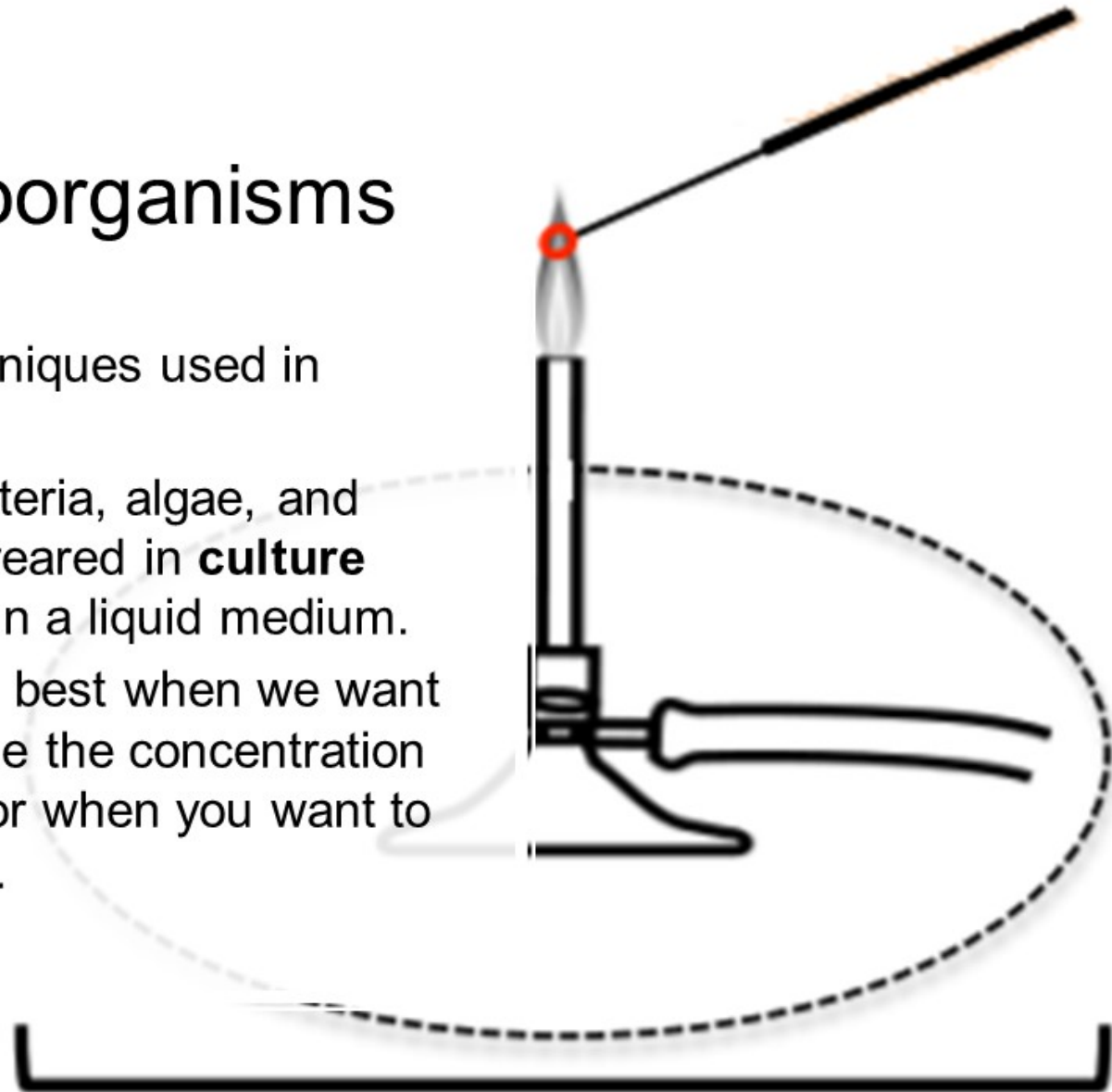
## Culturing Microbes

### The Five "I's"

- **Inoculation:** Producing a pure culture
- **Isolation:** Colony on media, one kind of microbe, pure culture
- **Incubation:** growing microbes under proper conditions
- **Inspection:** Observation of characteristics (data)
- **Identification:** use of data, correlation, to ID organism to exact species

# Culturing Microorganisms

- Two basic culture techniques used in microbiology:
  1. **Liquid culture:** bacteria, algae, and some fungi can be reared in **culture tubes (test tubes)** in a liquid medium.
    - *Liquid medium* is best when we want to rapidly increase the concentration of the organism or when you want to grow motile cells.



# Culturing Microorganisms

**2. Culture Plates:** Liquid medium is solidified using **agar** (agarose) and poured as a thin layer in the bottom of a culture dish (also sometimes called **petri plate**)

- *Culture plates* are used when you want to test (1) antibiotic sensitivity, (2) estimate culture concentrations from environmental samples, or (3) isolate individual colonies from environmental samples.

**Colony** – macroscopically visible collection of millions of bacteria originating from a single bacterial cell.



# Types of culture methods

## INOCULATION IN CULTURE PLATE

- Streak culture or surface plating
- Spread or lawn culture
- Pour plate method

## INOCULATION IN TUBES

- Stroke culture
- Stab culture
- Anaerobic methods of culturing bacteria

## Culture methods

### Streak culture

- Isolation of bacteria in pure culture from clinical specimen

### Spread or Lawn culture

- Antimicrobial susceptibility testing (disc diffusion), bacteriophage typing

### Liquid cultures

### Stroke culture

- To obtain pure growth for slide agglutination; biochemical tests

### Stab culture

- Maintenance of stock cultures

### Pour-plate culture

- Quantification of bacteria in liquid cultures, urine sample

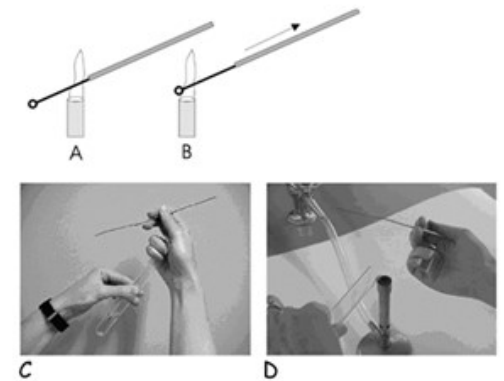
# STREAK CULTURE

- **PROTOCOL**
  - One loopful of the specimen is transferred onto the surface of a well dried plate.
  - Spread over a small area at the periphery.
  - The inoculum is then distributed thinly over the plate by streaking it with a loop in a series of parallel lines in different segments of the plate.
  - On incubation, separated colonies are obtained over the last series of streaks.

***All activities should be under aseptic conditions!!***

# Inoculation of Culture Plates and Tubes

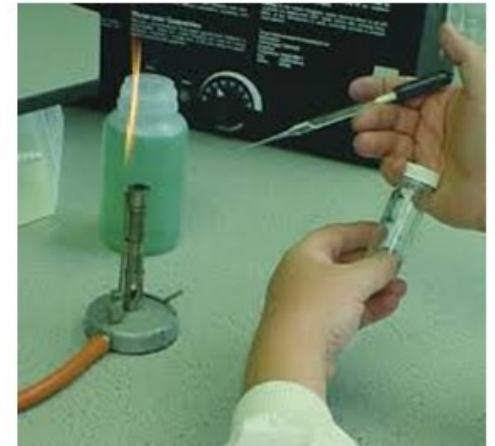
- ✓ Use either disposable inoculation loops or a metal loop that can be heat sterilized to inoculate plates, slants, and liquid culture tubes.
- ✓ If using a metal loop, be sure to cool the loop by touching the sterile cooled liquid media or the sterile culture plate **before** the placing the loop in your live culture.
- ✗ Failure to cool the loop will kill your active microbial cultures!



# Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

## Step 1:

- i. Remove the culture tube stopper or cap with one (do not set it down) and flame the mouth of the tube to surface sterilize the mouth.
- ii. The heated tube surface will generate a thermal current that prevents contamination of the culture.



## Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

**Step 2:** Place the sterile inoculation loop on working bench without touching any culture.

**Step 3:** Replace cap/cotton plug on the culture tube with the active microbes and pass inside in the test tube rack.

**Step 4:** Without pressing the loop down, pick-up a sterile fresh culture tube (*with media with one hand, and remove the cap with the other hand*).

## Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

**Step 5:** Flame the mouth of the culture tube by rotating in circular fashion .

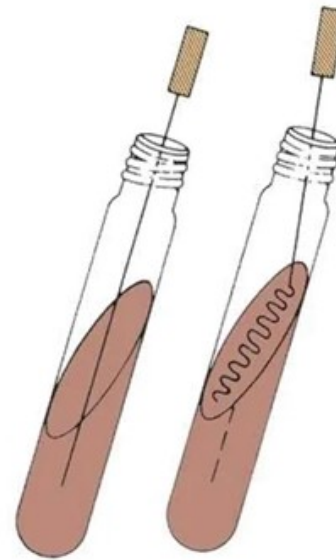


**Step 6:** Place the inoculation loop loaded with the microbes in the fresh media and swirl the loop in the media to ensure its even dispersal in the media.



## Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

**Step 7:** While using a solid media slant tube, follow above five steps and then zig-zag the inoculation loop across the slanted surface of the solid media in the tube.





## Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

**Step 8:** Flame the mouth of the newly inoculated culture tube and replace the cap.

**Step 9:** Place the culture tube back in test tube rack.

**Step 10:** Repeat until all of the sterile tubes have been inoculated. Use a fresh disposable culture loop for each tube or flame the metal loop after each tube has been inoculated.

## Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

**Step 11:** Incubate the culture at the recommended temperature (check with your supplier for growth requirements).

### **Avoid**

- incubation at room temperature
- accidental culture of human pathogens.

## Inoculation of Liquid and Solid (Slant) Culture Tubes

### Step 12:

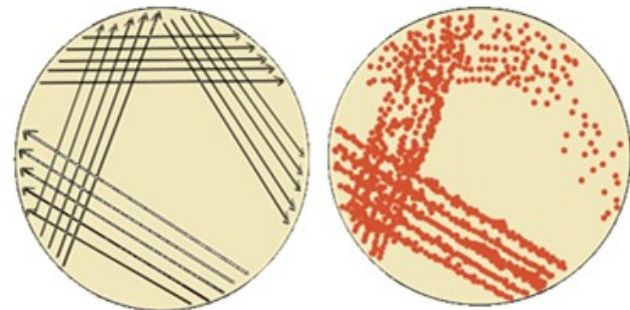
- i. Dispose of all culture materials in a biohazard bag and sterilize all old cultures before pouring out cultures and washing culture tubes.
- ii. Disposable culture dishes should be melted in an autoclave or pressure cooker prior to disposal.

# Inoculating Petri Plates

- Step 1:** Remove the culture tube stopper or cap with one hand and flame the mouth of the tube to surface sterilize the mouth. The heated tube surface will generate a thermal current that prevents contamination of the culture.
- Step 2:** Without setting any of the culture materials on the bench, place the sterile inoculation loop in the culture.
- Step 3:** Replace cap on the culture tube with the active microbes and put it in the test tube rack.

# Inoculating Petri Plates

**Step 4:** Holding the petri dish lid at an 30-45 degree angle, run the inoculating loop from the outside of the plate toward the center in a zig-zag pattern that covers approximately 25% of the plate surface.

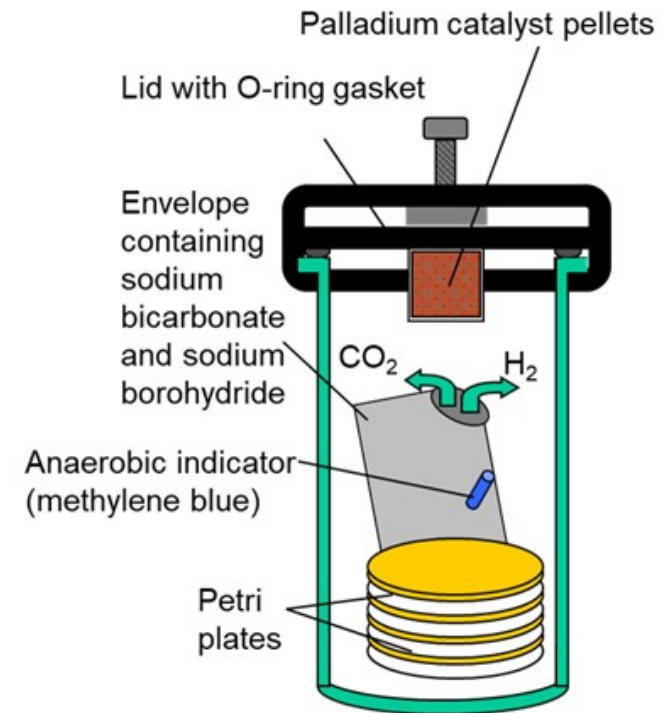


# Inoculating Petri Plates

- Step 5:** Turn the petri plate 90° to the right, dragging the inoculation loop through the last section of the plate, moving from the outside to the inside in a zig-zag motion.
- Step 6:** Repeat this process twice more until the entire plate surface is covered.

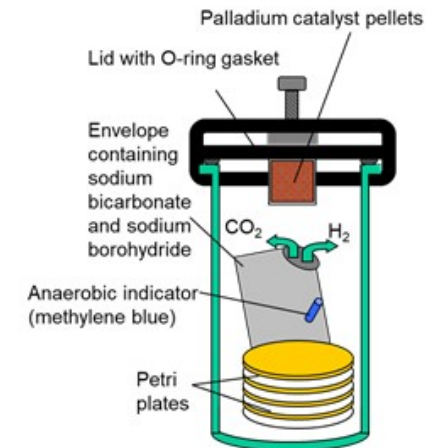
# Anaerobic growth

- Reducing media containing thioglycolate to deplete oxygen; cooked meat broth; reducing agent - 1% glucose 0.1% thioglycolate, 0.1% ascorbic acid 0.05% cysteine
- Anaerobic jar, anaerobic chamber, anaerobic bags/ pouch



# DISPLACEMENT AND COMBUSTION OF OXYGEN

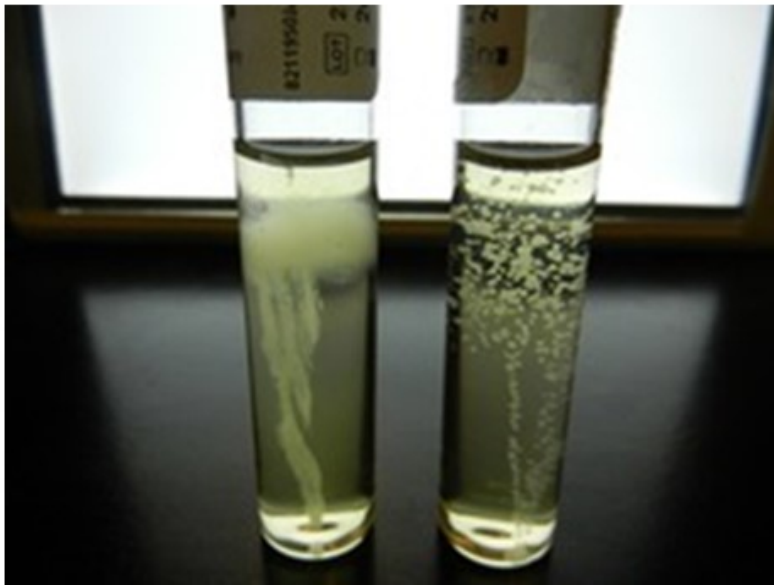
- Most reliable & widely used anaerobic method
- Complete anaerobiosis
- Catalyst – palladinised asbestos
- Commercially available as disposable envelope, containing chemicals which generate  $H_2$ ,  $CO_2$  with the addition of water.





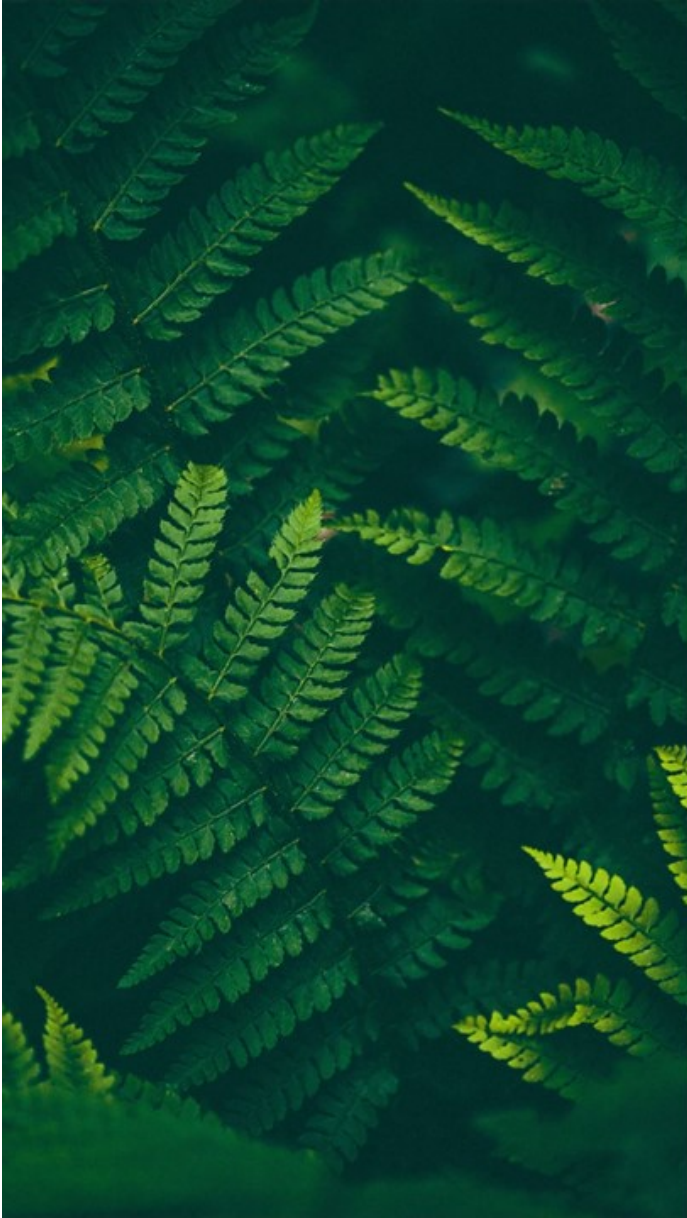
# ANAEROBIC CULTURE MEDIA

**THIOGLYCOLLATE BROTH**



**ROBERTSON'S COOKED MEAT MEDIUM**





THANKS

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