B973	**CASMAN AGAR**
Formula	
Ingredients :	**gms/lit.**
Proteose peptone	10.00
Tryptose	10.00
Beef extract	3.00
Dextrose	0.50
Corn starch	1.00
Sodium chloride	5.00
Nicotinamide	0.05
p-Amino benzoic acid (PABA)	0.05
Agar	14.00
Final pH (at 25°C) :	7.3 ± 0.2

Directions :

Suspend 43.6 gms in 1000 ml. distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 50°C and aseptically add 0.15% v/v sterile water lysed blood (water:blood:3:1) of 5% sterile blood. Mix well and dispense as desired.

Principle :

Proteose peptone, tryptose and beef extract provide amino acids and other complex nitrogenous NUTRIENTS. Dextrose improves growth of pathogenic cocci. Corn starch prevents fatty acids from inhibiting the growth of Neisseria gonorrhoeae, without interfering with haemolytic reaction but neutralizes the inhibitory action of dextrose. Addition of blood provides the growth factors required for Haemophilus influenzae as hemin or X factor and Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (NAD) or V factor. Horse and rabbit blood are preferred as they are relatively free of NADase, an enzyme that destroys V factor. Nicotinamide is added to medium to inhibit nucleotidase of erythrocytes that destroys V factor.

Inoculate the medium as soon as the specimen arrives at the laboratory. After incubation Haemophilus influenzae produces colourless to gray colonies with a characteristic `mousy' odour while Neisseria gonorrhoeae produces small colourless to grayish- white colonies.

QC Tests – (I)Dehydrated Medium		
	Colour :	Light yellow
	Appearance :	Homogeneous Free Flowing powder
(II)Rehydrated medium		
	pH (post autoclaving/heating) :	7.3 ± 0.2
	Colour (post autoclaving/heating) :	a) Basal medium – Yellow b) With addition of blood : Cherry-red
	Clarity (post autoclaving/heating) :	a) Clear to slightly opalescent b) Opalescent
(III)Q.C. Test Microbiological		
	Cultural characteristics observed after 40-48 hrs.at 35-37°C.	

	MICROORGANISM (ATCC)	GROWTH	HAEMOLYSIS
	Haemophilus influenzae (35056)	Good – luxuriant	None
	Neisseria meningitidis (13090)	Luxuriant	None
	Streptococcus pneumoniae (6303)	Luxuriant	Alpha
	Streptococcus pyogenes (19615)	Luxuriant	Beta
	Streptococcus mitis (9895)	Luxuriant	Beta

Precautions :	1. For Laboratory Use. 2. Follow proper, established laboratory procedures in handling and disposing of infectious materials.
Limitations :	1. Since the nutritional requirements of organisms vary, some strains may be encountered that fail to grow or grow poorly on this medium.
Use :	For isolation of fastidious microorganisms from clinical specimens under reduced oxygen tension.
Storage :	Dehydrated medium- below 30°C Prepared medium– Between 2 to 8°C.
Packing :	500 gm bottle

Product profile:	Reconstitution	Quantity on Preparation (500g)	pH (25°C)	Supplement	Sterilization
B973	43.6g/l	11.46L	7.3 ± 0.2	0.15% v/v sterile water lysed blood (water:blood:3:1) of 5% sterile blood.	121^0C / 15 minutes