

# NATURAL SEAWATER-BASED PRO99 MEDIUM

Chisholm Lab

## Abstract

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## Guidelines

**NOTE:** We observe maximal growth with open ocean seawater (i.e. Sargasso seawater), though we can routinely grow *Prochlorococcus* in some coastal seawater (from Cape Cod, MA) as well.

**Table 1.** Nutrient additions to filtered, autoclaved seawater

Nutrient	Manufacturer/Grade	Primary Stock (M)	Dilution Factor	Final Conc. (μM)	Sigma Cat. No.
NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O	(1) / ACS	0.025	1:500	50	(MK7892-04)
NH <sub>4</sub> Cl	(1) / ACS	0.50	1:625	800	(MK3384-12)
Na <sub>2</sub> EDTA·2 H <sub>2</sub> O	(2) / 99%	0.012	1:10 <sup>4</sup>	1.17	E4884-100g
FeCl <sub>3</sub> ·6 H <sub>2</sub> O	(1) / Analytic	0.012	1:10 <sup>4</sup>	1.18	44944-50g
ZnSO <sub>4</sub> ·7 H <sub>2</sub> O	(3) / >99.5%	0.080	1:10 <sup>7</sup>	0.008	204986-10g
CoCl <sub>2</sub> ·6 H <sub>2</sub> O	(1) / Analytic	0.050	1:10 <sup>7</sup>	0.005	60820-50g
MnCl <sub>2</sub> ·4 H <sub>2</sub> O	(1) / Analytic	0.900	1:10 <sup>7</sup>	0.090	M3634-100g
Na <sub>2</sub> MoO <sub>4</sub> ·2 H <sub>2</sub> O	(2) / ACS	0.030	1:10 <sup>7</sup>	0.003	M1651-100g
Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub>	(2) / ~98%	0.100	1:10 <sup>7</sup>	0.010	S5261-25g
NiCl <sub>2</sub> ·6 H <sub>2</sub> O	(1) / Analytic	0.100	1:10 <sup>7</sup>	0.010	223387-25g

Manufacturer Index: (1) Mallinckrodt, (2) Sigma, (3) Fluka **Note 2/6/12:** Mallinckrodt and Fluka no longer available; ordered all reagents from Sigma at same grade as specified.

### Note 4/28/08:

Matt suggested higher concentrations of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> so only use 0.5ml per 1L seawater:

1.6M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl 2.14g/25ml or 8.56g/100ml

0.1M NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O 0.345g/25ml or 1.38g/100ml

Trace metal working stock 100μl

## Protocol

### Seawater Preparation

#### Step 1.

Prepare a glass filter funnel and flask by cleaning with acid and Milli-Q water

## 📌 NOTES

**VERVE Team** 29 Jun 2015

Clean the system after every 10 filtrations.

### Seawater Preparation

#### Step 2.

Filter raw seawater through 47mm Whatman GF/F stacked on top of a 47mm 0.2µm polycarbonate filter

## 📌 NOTES

**VERVE Team** 29 Jun 2015

Make sure there are no bubbles/creases.

### Seawater Preparation

#### Step 3.

Autoclave seawater in a Teflon bottle (60 minutes for 2L)

## 🕒 DURATION

01:00:00

### Seawater Preparation

#### Step 4.

Allow to cool overnight

## 🕒 DURATION

18:00:00

### Stock and Trace Metal Preparation

#### Step 5.

Prepare 0.5M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution

## ✅ PROTOCOL

### . 0.5M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl

CONTACT: [Bonnie Poulos](#)

#### Step 5.1.

Weigh out 2.67g NH<sub>4</sub>Cl using dust-free weigh paper

#### Step 5.2.

Transfer into 100mL volumetric flask filled with about 60mL Milli-Q water

#### Step 5.3.

Dissolve NH<sub>4</sub>Cl by inverting flask several times

#### Step 5.4.

Adjust volume to 100mL mark with Milli-Q water

#### Step 5.5.

Using a polycarbonate syringe, filter through 0.2µm syringe filter (Acrodisc, Pall #2006-01) into sterile container in a laminar flow hood

#### Step 5.6.

Store sterile stock at 4°C

### Stock and Trace Metal Preparation

#### Step 6.

Prepare 0.025M NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O solution

## PROTOCOL

### . [0.025M NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O](#)

CONTACT: [Bonnie Poulos](#)

#### Step 6.1.

Weigh out 0.345g NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O using dust-free weigh paper

#### Step 6.2.

Transfer into 100mL volumetric flask filled with about 60mL Milli-Q water

#### Step 6.3.

Dissolve NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> by inverting flask several times

#### Step 6.4.

Adjust volume to 100mL mark with Milli-Q water

#### Step 6.5.

Using a polycarbonate syringe, filter through 0.2µm syringe filter into sterile container in a laminar flow hood.

#### Step 6.6.

Store sterile stock at 4°C

## Stock and Trace Metal Preparation

### Step 7.

Prepare primary trace metal stocks

## PROTOCOL

### . [Primary trace metal stocks](#)

CONTACT: [Bonnie Poulos](#)

#### Step 7.1.

Using dust-free weigh paper, weigh out:

2.30g ZnSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O

1.19g CoCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O

17.81g MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O

0.726g Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O

1.73g Na<sub>2</sub>SeO<sub>3</sub>

2.38g NiCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O

## NOTES

**Bonnie Poulos** 30 Nov 2015

Before culturing cyanobacteria, read the publication by LR Moore et al. (2007) Limnol. Ocenogr. 5:353-362.

**Bonnie Poulos** 30 Nov 2015

All reagents used for culturing cyanobacteria should be the highest quality to avoid contamination by trace metals. Do not use metal spatulas for dispensing the chemicals (use plastic, teflon, or dust-free weighing paper to dispense). Store reagents in acid-washed teflon or polycarbonate containers.

**Bonnie Poulos** 30 Nov 2015

Use the highest quality chemicals that are dedicated for cyanobacteria work.  
Do not use metal spatulas to transfer chemicals; use plastic or teflon spatulas or dust-free weigh paper to weigh out chemicals.  
All re-useable glassware or plastic should be acid-washed and then autoclaved.

**Bonnie Poulos** 30 Nov 2015

Do not use metal spatulas; use plastic or teflon spatulas or dust-free weigh paper to weigh out chemicals and purchase the highest quality chemicals

### Step 7.2.

Transfer each trace metal into separate 100mL volumetric flasks containing about 60 mL Milli-Q water

### NOTES

**Bonnie Poulos** 30 Nov 2015

Do not use metal spatulas; use plastic or teflon spatulas or dust-free weigh paper to weigh out chemicals and purchase the highest quality chemicals

**Bonnie Poulos** 30 Nov 2015

Alternatively, if preparing 50 mL volumes, use half the amount of chemical listed and adjust volume to 50 mL mark with Milli-Q water

### Step 7.3.

Dissolve contents by placing stopper in top and inverting flask several times

### Step 7.4.

Adjust volume to 100 mL mark with Milli-Q water

### Step 7.5.

Store each stock in acid-washed Teflon or polycarbonate (i.e., Nalgene) bottles at 4°C

## Stock and Trace Metal Preparation

### Step 8.

Prepare trace metal working stock

### PROTOCOL

#### . [Cyanobacteria Trace Metal Mixture \(CTMM\)](#)

CONTACT: [Bonnie Poulos](#)

### Step 8.1.

Weigh out 0.435 g  $\text{Na}_2\text{EDTA}\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  using dust-free weigh paper

### REAGENTS

Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid disodium salt dihydrate [E4884](#) by [Sigma Aldrich](#)

### Step 8.2.

Transfer into 100 mL volumetric flask filled with 60 mL Milli-Q water

### Step 8.3.

Dissolve  $\text{Na}_2\text{EDTA}$  by inserting the stopper and inverting flask several times

### NOTES

**Bonnie Poulos** 11 Aug 2015

May have to heat 5 min at 80°C to dissolve.

### Step 8.4.

Weigh out 0.32 g  $\text{FeCl}_3\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  using dust-free weigh paper

### Step 8.5.

Dissolve  $\text{FeCl}_3$  into same volumetric flask and mix by inverting several times

#### Step 8.6.

Individually add and dissolve 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of each of the six primary trace metal stocks described in the Primary Trace Metal Stocks protocol. The six primary trace metals to add are  $\text{ZnSO}_4$ ,  $\text{CoCl}_2$ ,  $\text{MnCl}_2$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{MoO}_4$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SeO}_3$  and  $\text{NiCl}_2$ .

 [LINK:](#)

<https://www.protocols.io/view/Primary-trace-metal-stocks-c8hzt5>

#### Step 8.7.

Adjust volume to 100mL mark with Milli-Q water

#### Step 8.8.

Using a polycarbonate syringe, filter through 0.2 $\mu\text{m}$  syringe filter into a sterile, acid-washed teflon or polycarbonate container in a laminar flow hood

#### Step 8.9.

Store sterile CTMM (cyanobacteria trace metal mixture) at 4°C

#### Step 9.

To make up the media, add following volumes of sterile nutrients and trace metal stock to one liter of the autoclaved seawater

Nutrient	Volume
Filtered Seawater	1000.0mL
0.5M $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$	1.6mL
0.025M $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	2.0mL
Trace metal working stock	100 $\mu\text{L}$

#### NOTES

**VERVE Team** 11 Aug 2015

It is important to dissolve each nutrient sequentially.

**VERVE Team** 11 Aug 2015

Note 4/28/08:

Matt suggested higher concentrations of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4$  so only use 0.5ml per 1L seawater:

1.6M  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  2.14g/25ml or 8.56g/100ml

0.1M  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  0.345g/25ml or 1.38g/100ml

Trace metal working stock 100 $\mu\text{L}$

#### Step 10.

Store at room temperature for up to one month