

BG-11 Medium for Freshwater Cyanobacteria

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Abstract

This medium is used successfully for most cyanobacteria. Vitamin B₁₂ may be added for those species that require it. Use f/2 vitamin solution.

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Guidelines

STOCK	STOCK SOLUTION ml/Litre	
NaNO ₃	150 g/L	10 ml
K ₂ HPO ₄ ·3H ₂ O or *K ₂ HPO ₄	40 g/L or *30 g/L	1 ml
MgSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	75 g/L	1 ml
CaCl ₂ ·2H ₂ O	36 g/L	1 ml
Citric Acid combined with Ferric Ammonium Citrate	6 g/L	1 ml
EDTA	1 g/L	1 ml
Na ₂ CO ₃	20 g/L	1 ml
Trace Metal Solution	See below	1 ml

Adjust pH to approximately 7.5. (Initial pH is approximately 8.5.) When making solid media, you can add agar directly to medium or make double strength medium and double strength agar solution, then after autoclaving combine the two. OPTION: 0.5 g/L of HEPES buffer can be added to the final medium as a buffer. FeCl₃ and EDTA added in a 1:1 ratio may be substituted.

Trace Metal Solution:

Substance	g/Litre
H ₃ BO ₃	2.86 g
MnCl ₂ ·4H ₂ O	1.81 g
ZnSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	0.222 g
NaMoO ₄ ·5H ₂ O	0.390 g
CuSO ₄ ·5H ₂ O	0.079 g
Co(NO ₃) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	0.0494 g

Dissolve each of the above substances separately prior to adding the next on the list.

Rippka, R., J. Deruelles, J. Waterbury, M. Herdman and R. Stanier. 1979. Generic assignments, strain

histories and properties of pure cultures of cyanobacteria. J. Gen. Microbiol. 111: 1-61

Protocol