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# DTM (Dermatophyte Test Medium) Agar

Cat. No. **BP272**  
**PD109**  
**DD019**  
**LD511**  
**DS034**

DTM Agar is a selective and differential medium for the detection of dermatophytic fungi from hair, skin and nails.

DTM Agar is based on the Taplin, Zaias, Rebell and Blanc<sup>1</sup> formula.

The medium is selective due to the presence of inhibitors (antibiotics and cycloheximide) which inhibit growth of bacteria and usually saprophytic. The differential is based upon the use of phenol red as a pH indicator. Dermatophytes produce alkaline metabolites that elevate the pH of the medium. The medium color changes from rust to red bordeaux upon the presence of the indicator even before colonies are fully developed. As growth progresses the color of the whole medium will intensify and a white mycelium will become visible.

Certain saprophytic mold contaminants may also grow but the colonies and mycelium appear before the medium's color change takes place. Certain cycloheximide-resistant yeasts may produce a color change of the medium but they form smooth colonies without any mycelium.

## CULTURE CONDITIONS: AEROBIC, 25-30°C.

MICROORGANISMS	DEVELOPMENT	INHIBITION	CHANGE OF BACKGROUND
Bacteria	-	+	-
Molds	-	+	-
Saprophytic yeasts	-	+	-
Dermatophytes	+	-	+ background becomes red - bordeaux

#### References:

1. Taplin, D., Zaias, N., Rebell, G., Blanc, H., Arch derm. 99:203, 1969