

Fungassay®

DERMATOPHYTE TEST MEDIUM

FUNGASSAY Dermatophyte Test Medium is a culture medium that provides the veterinarian with a simple, rapid and practical method for confirming diagnosis of dermatophyte infections. The test is based on a color change within the medium from amber to red,¹ caused by the growth of pathogenic fungi, such as *Microsporum* and *Trichophyton* species. These fungi cause most of the dermatomycoses in veterinary medicine.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

For optimum results, it is necessary to follow the directions given below.

- 1. Washing** is indicated only in cases of heavy contamination or encrustation.^{2,3} If the site is washed prior to sampling, a non-medicated, non-fungicidal soap is recommended, followed by drying with an absorbent material. These steps remove saprophytic organisms which could overgrow the culture, thus masking the growth of pathogenic fungi.
- 2. Select** hair and scales for culture from both the periphery and the center of the lesion. Broken, frayed or distorted hairs, and those that fluoresce with Wood's light, are the best specimens.
- 3. Remove** only a small portion of hair and scales from the lesion with a hemostat or thumb forcep. Avoid placing large amounts of hair and scales on the medium; this will produce useless overgrowth of contaminants.
- 4. When removing the cap** from the FUNGASSAY Dermatophyte Test Medium bottle, take care to avoid contamination.
- 5. Press** the hair and scales on the culture medium to assure good contact, but do not bury the specimen in the medium.
- 6. When replacing the cap,** make certain that it **remains loose** so that air exchange can occur

in the bottle during incubation. **When the cap is too tight color change will not develop.**

- 7. Identify** the bottle with patient and date.
- 8. Incubate** at room temperature (72°-85°F.) so that suitable growth will occur.
- 9. Evaluation** of the test results can begin as early as 48 hours after inoculation. A pinkish color will appear in the amber medium under the specimen and developing colony. The color will intensify as growth proceeds and is due to alkaline metabolites produced by the dermatophytes. When a positive dermatophyte infection is present, the entire medium will turn red by the seventh to fourteenth day. If there is no growth within ten days, redistribute the sample on the medium. Occasionally growth does not occur because of improper inoculation.

- 10. A color change** may occasionally be produced by a specimen heavily contaminated with saprophytic fungi or bacteria.¹ However this is not a problem because differentiation from dermatophytes can be made as follows:

Dermatophyte: A color change appears in the medium **with** colony growth - colony pigments are usually **light** colored.

Saprophyte fungi: Colony growth is well established **before** any color change appears in the medium - colony pigments are usually **dark** colored.

Bacteria: The morphology of bacterial colonies **differs** from the morphology of fungal colonies.

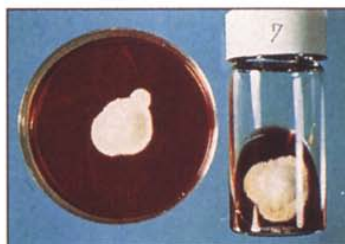
PRECAUTIONS:

Refrigerate FUNGASSAY Dermatophyte Test Medium for optimum storage. Warming to room temperature before using is not necessary.

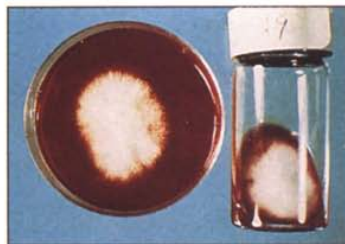
Destroy the used FUNGASSAY Dermatophyte Test Medium bottle by incineration to eliminate spread of all organisms.

HOW SUPPLIED:

FUNGASSAY Dermatophyte Test Medium is supplied in a package containing 10 individual bottles.



Trichophyton mentagrophytes at 14 days.



Microsporum canis at 14 days



Microsporum gypseum at 14 days.

REFERENCES:

1. Taplin, D., Zaias, N., Rebell, G. and Blank, H.: Isolation and recognition of dermatophytes on a new medium (DTM). Arch. Derm. 99:203-209 (1969).
2. Blakemore, J.C. Diagnosis of dermatophyte Infection - Part 1. The Practising Veterinarian 46(6): 15-22 (1974).
3. Carroll, H. F. Evaluation of dermatophyte test medium for diagnosis of dermatophytosis. J. Am. Vet. Med. Assn. 165(2): 192-195 (1974).

CAUTION:

Keep out of reach of children

For Veterinary Use Only

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