GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR DEHYDRATE CULTURE MEDIA

The storage temperature of our products are as follows:

Hematology	: 2 to 8°C
Hemocultures	: 8 to 20°C
Dehydrated Culture Media	: must be stored in a cool and dry place.
Agars	: must be stored in a cool and dry place.
Peptones	: must be stored in a cool and dry place.
Serology	: 2 to 8°C

The expiry date of our Culture Media products is as follows:

Hematology	: 2 years
Hemocultures	: 18 months
Dehydrated Culture Media	: 4 years, except for media with selenite (3 years) and choromogenic media (15 months)
Agars	: 4 years
Peptones	: 4 years
Serology	: 12 and 24 months

- All our products are exclusively for "in vitro" use
- Order once placed cannot be cancelled.
- We will not accept return or replacement for expired goods.
- It will take minimum 3 to 4 weeks to despatch good if they are out of stock.
- We shall not be responsible for any damage or loss direct or indirect.
- Products appearing in this catalogue are meant for laboratory use only.

PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

Rehydration: The dissolution of the media frequently determines the clarity and yield of the final products. It is essential to obtain a homogeneous solution with minimal exposure to heat. Only purified water [distilled or deonized] should be used. The required quantity of powder material should be added to half the volume of water. After total mixing, add the rest of water, taking caution to rinse the sides of the container and stir the contents carefully.

Allowing the mixture to stand for 5 minutes helps to obtain a uniform suspension. Many formulate that do not contain gelatin., agar or cystine, dissolve without heat, but others required direct heat for complete dissolution, sometimes agitation as well. Apply heat evenly, boil it as briefly as possible [normally a minute or two is sufficient]. Follow the instructions for each specific medium that appear on the label or in the technical data sheet.

Sterilization: Follow the instructions for each specific medium that appear on the label or in the technical data sheet. In general, these instructions are for smaller volumes of media. For larger volumes increase the time of sterilization by 30 mins., without the temperature exceeding the specified for each medium. The media which contain carbohydrates should not be autoclaved at a temperature that exceed 116°C to 118 °C. Always avoid overheating.

Presentations: All our Dehydrated Culture Media, Peptones and Agars, in addition to the smaller size in the Catalogue [500 g], can be supplied in the following bulk sized-drums.

SOME COMMON FAULTS & CAUSES:

Drift in pH: Overheating, incomplete mixing, prolonged sterilization, use of alkaline glass, impure water, repeated remelting, hydrolysis of ingredients, prolonged storage at high temperature.

Incomplete Solubility: Inadequate heating of agar media, insufficient agitation, too small a container [occasionally a precipitate can be essential part of medium, e.g. Bismuth Sulphite Agar]

Darkening: Overheating of the medium in dissolution or sterilization, incorrect weighing of dehydrated powder, insufficient agitation.

Soft Gel: Overheating of the medium in dissolution or sterilization, insufficient agitation, incorrect weighing, acid hydrolysis of agar, determination dehydrated powder, failure to compensate for dilution of agar by the inoculum.

Loss of Growth Promoting or Differentiating Properties: Repeated remelting, excessive heating, incomplete dissolution, incorrect weighing, disturbance in the formula by the inoculum carriers.

Abnormal Color of Medium: Deteriorated dehydrated medium, improperly washed glassware, impure water.

Toxicity of Medium: Improperly washed glassware, impure water, burning or scorching of medium.

Contaminated: Improper/insufficient sterilizer, poor technique in adding supplements and/or additives and pouring plates.