

# Reading the Results

## Evaluation

Colonies of *T. equigenitalis* are small (2-3 mm), smooth with complete edges, glossy and yellowish grey.<sup>2, 3</sup>

## Limitations

### For Veterinary and Research Use Only

Plates should be examined for contaminants after the first 24 hours of incubation. Laboratories should be aware that certain countries and/or states may require the prolonged incubation periods or specific confirmation techniques as standard procedures and should therefore ascertain the particular local or regional requirements for CEM testing and reporting and/or indicate the specific isolation and testing methods used for their cultural findings. Definite confirmation of *T. equigenitalis* may require a range of staining, biochemical testing, antibody agglutination or immunofluorescent testing.

Timoney's CEM is an agar medium that is susceptible to condensation collection within the petri, especially when stored at low temperatures and/or having been exposed to extreme temperature fluctuations. If moisture is visible on the surface of the Petri, dry them under a BSL-2 cabinet just prior to inoculation. There should be no visible droplets of moisture on the surface of the agar when they are inoculated. The surface of the dried medium should be smooth and should not show signs (webbed ribbing pattern on the agar surface) of desiccation.

## References:

1. Timoney, PJ, SJ Shin and RH Jacobson. (1982) Improved Selective Medium for Isolation of the Contagious Equine Metritis Organism. *Vet. Rec.*; 111:107-108.
2. World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). (2019) *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)*. [oie.int/standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online](http://oie.int/standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online).
3. USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services Factsheet. (2009) Contagious Equine Metritis. [aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/fs\\_CEMrev09.pdf](http://aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_CEMrev09.pdf).

Symbol glossary: [biomeddiagnostics.com/l/symbol-glossary](http://biomeddiagnostics.com/l/symbol-glossary)

## Document Revision History

### Rev. D, Aug 2025

Removed QRI Cert. scanner, updated manufactured by, company address, logo and Cat No. 12-144-002. Chocolate SKU 12-134-002 has been discontinued and removed from Description and limitations. Statement added to limitation regarding condensation. Removed sealed petri dishes from procedure, no longer offered.



Manufactured by:  
Biomed Diagnostics, a DCN Dx brand  
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[biomeddiagnostics.com](http://biomeddiagnostics.com)

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Trademarks: ATCC® (American Type Culture Collection). Registered names, trademarks, etc. used in this document, even when not specifically marked as such, are not to be considered unprotected by law. 100-510 Timoney's CEM, Rev. D (08/2025)



## Petri Timoney's CEM Agar

Catalog No. 12-144-001 10 pack, unsealed

**Not available in all countries; please inquire.  
For Veterinary and Research Use Only**

# Introduction

## Intended Use

Timoney's CEM Agar is the improved formulation for selective culture-based isolation and identification of *Taylorella equigenitalis*, the causative agent of Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM).<sup>1</sup>

## Description and Principle

CEM is an inflammation of the endometrium of mares caused by *T. equigenitalis*, which usually results in temporary infertility. It is a non-systemic infection, the effects of which are restricted to the reproductive tract of the mare. Timoney's CEM Agar is suitable for the direct plating of fresh swabs or properly controlled samples transported in Amie's media or other applicable transport media. Timoney's CEM Agar is an improved formulation with selective antibiotics. For a complimentary, non-selective medium, use our Chocolate Eugon Agar with 10% Horse Blood (Cat. Nos. 12-134-001).

## Reagents and Appearance

Timoney's CEM medium appears chocolate/red and contains agar, peptone nutrients, horse blood, and antimicrobial selective compounds (i.e., Amphotericin B, Clindamycin, Trimethoprim) with a final pH of  $7.0 \pm 0.1$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ .

## Precautions, Safety and Disposal

Read the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and follow the handling instructions. Wear appropriate protective eyewear, clothing and gloves.

Once the petri has been inoculated, re-open only in a biological safety cabinet. Because of the potential for containing infectious materials, the petri must be destroyed by autoclaving at  $121^\circ\text{C}$  for 20 minutes.

## Storage

Upon receipt, store Timoney's CEM Agar under refrigeration ( $2-8^\circ\text{C}$ ). Medium can be kept for one day at ambient temperature. Avoid freezing or prolonged storage at temperatures above  $40^\circ\text{C}$ . Petri dishes should be received and stored upside down to minimize condensation on the surface of the agar. Do not open until ready to use. Do not use if the medium shows signs of deterioration or contamination.

## Shelf Life

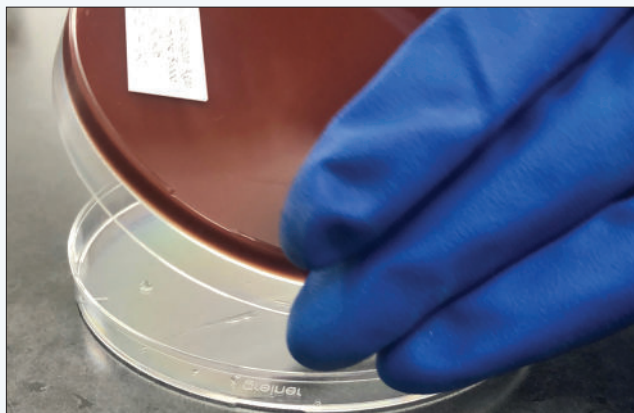
Petri Timoney's CEM Agar expires 6 months from date of manufacture.

# Procedure

## Materials Provided

- Petri Timoney's CEM Agar

1



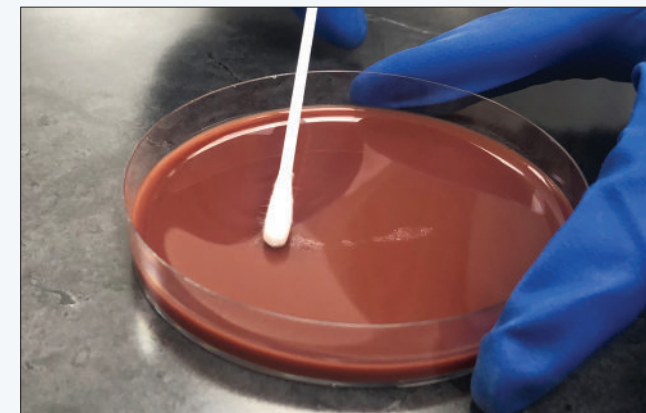
Allow the petri to warm to  $18-25^\circ\text{C}$ .

Lift the inverted petri base off the lid.

## Materials Required but Not Provided

- Sterile inoculating tool (e.g. cotton swab/ forceps/ scalpel blade)
- Laboratory incubator capable of incubation at  $37^\circ\text{C}$  in a 5-10%  $\text{CO}_2$  controlled atmosphere environment with a 85% to 98% relative humidity range

2



Streak the sample onto the agar surface.

Immediately label the petri with subject and sample information and date.

## Incubation

Incubate inverted at  $35-37^\circ\text{C}$  for 72 hours to 14 days in a 5-10%  $\text{CO}_2$  controlled environment with a 85% to 98% relative humidity range. 5-10%  $\text{CO}_2$  can also be achieved using the candle jar method.

## Quality Control

This product has been tested and meets the CLSI (formerly NCCLS) Approved Standard for commercially prepared media (M22-A3). At the time of manufacture, quality control testing is performed on each lot of the Petri Timoney's CEM Agar. The ability of the media to support growth and demonstrate expected biochemical reactions and morphology is verified by lot.

All Biomed product lots are performance verified with ATCC® microbe strains (Table 1). Product performance is also verified periodically throughout the marked shelf life of each lot.

## Organisms used for quality control testing

Organism	ATCC	Colony Appearance
<i>T. equigenitalis</i>	35865	Small, smooth, yellowish grey, cytochrome-oxidase positive
<i>E. coli</i>	259 22	Partially inhibited, cytochrome-oxidase negative
<i>S. xylosum</i>	29971	Inhibited, cytochrome-oxidase negative
<i>C. albicans</i>	90028	Inhibited, cytochrome-oxidase negative