

# BACTERIAL CULTURE METHODS

BASICS

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# BACTERIAL NUTRITION AND THE DESIGN OF CULTURE MEDIA

- Based on bacterial metabolism\*
- Culture pH
- Culture oxidation- reduction potential.
- Gaseous requirements
  - Oxygen, Carbon dioxide and other gases



# CULTURE MEDIA

- Used to grow bacteria
- Can be used to:
  - Enrich the numbers of bacteria
  - Select for certain bacteria and suppress others
  - Differentiate among different kinds of bacteria



# OXYGEN CONCENTRATION

- Aerobs
- Anaerobs (do not require oxygen)
- Obligate anaerobs (die in the presence of Ooxygen )
- Facultative anaerobs (E.coli)
- Microaerophilic bacteria





# PURPOSE OF CULTURING

- Isolation
- Properties of bacteria
- To create antigens for laboratory use
- Typing with Bacteriophages and Bacteriocins susceptibility
- To test for Antibiotic sensitivity
- Estimate viable counts
- Maintain stock cultures



P. Champoiseau, UF-IFAS, 2008

# METHODS OF ISOLATION OF PURE CULTURE WITH ..

- 1. Surface plating
- 2 Enrichment medium
- 3 Selective medium
- 4 Indicator medium



# TYPES OF MEDIA USED

**General purpose media** will support the growth of many microorganisms.

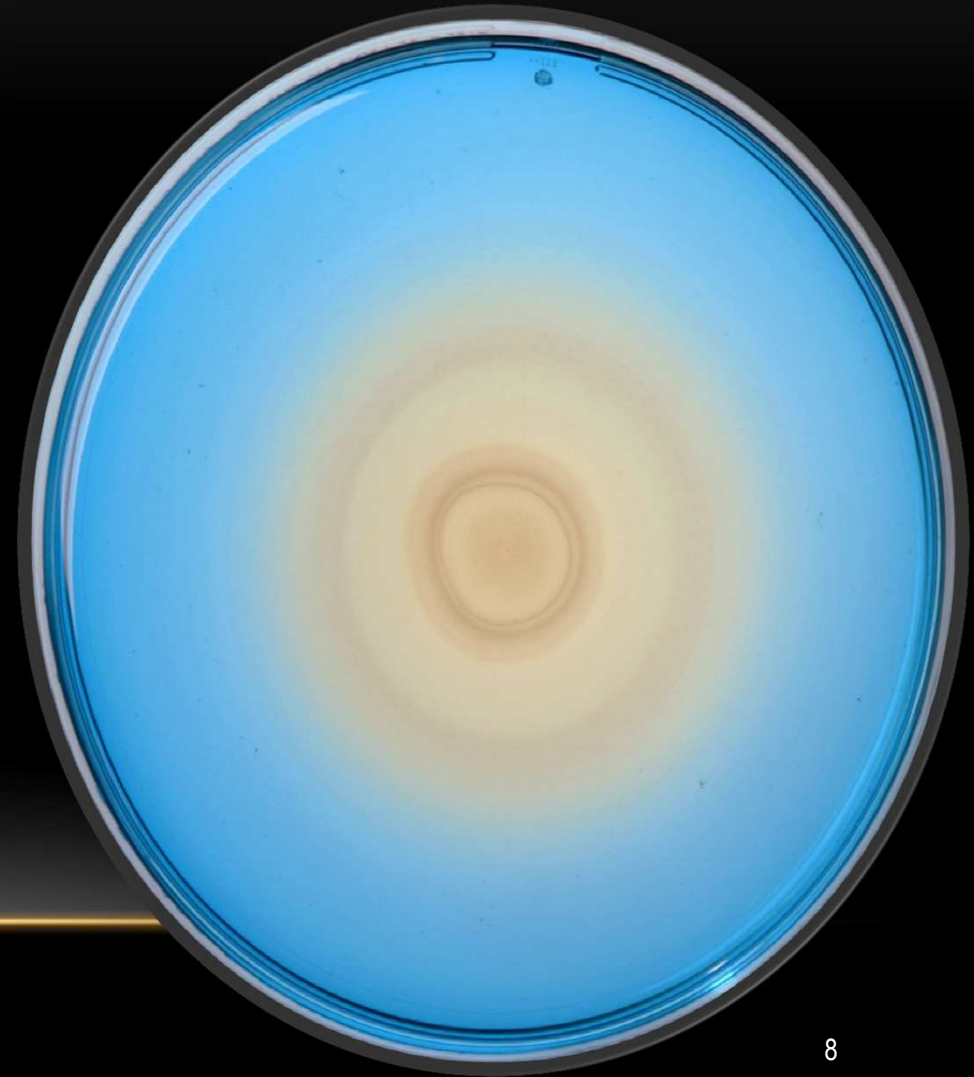
**Enriched media** are general purpose media supplemented by blood or other special nutrients to encourage the growth of fastidious heterotrophs; (fastidious = having complicated nutritional requirements)



# TYPES OF MEDIA USED

**Selective media** favor the growth of particular microorganisms and inhibits the growth of others.

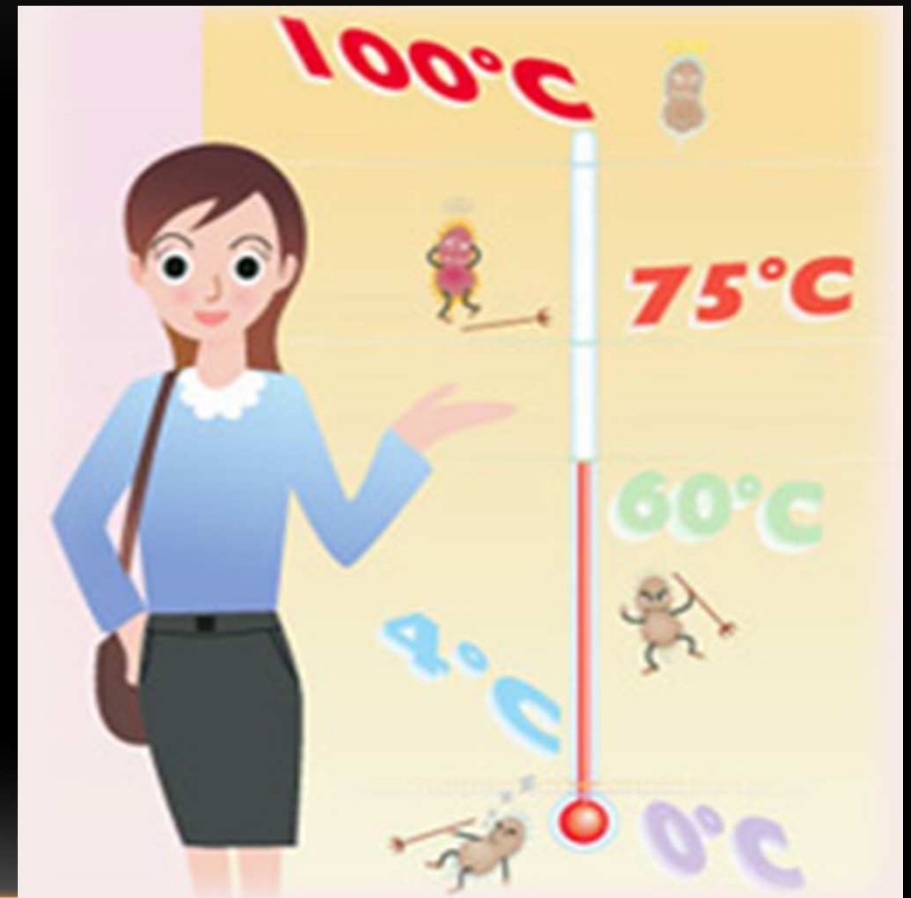
**Differential media** distinguish between different groups of bacteria on the basis of their biological characteristics;  
Causes observable change in medium when biochemical reaction occurs



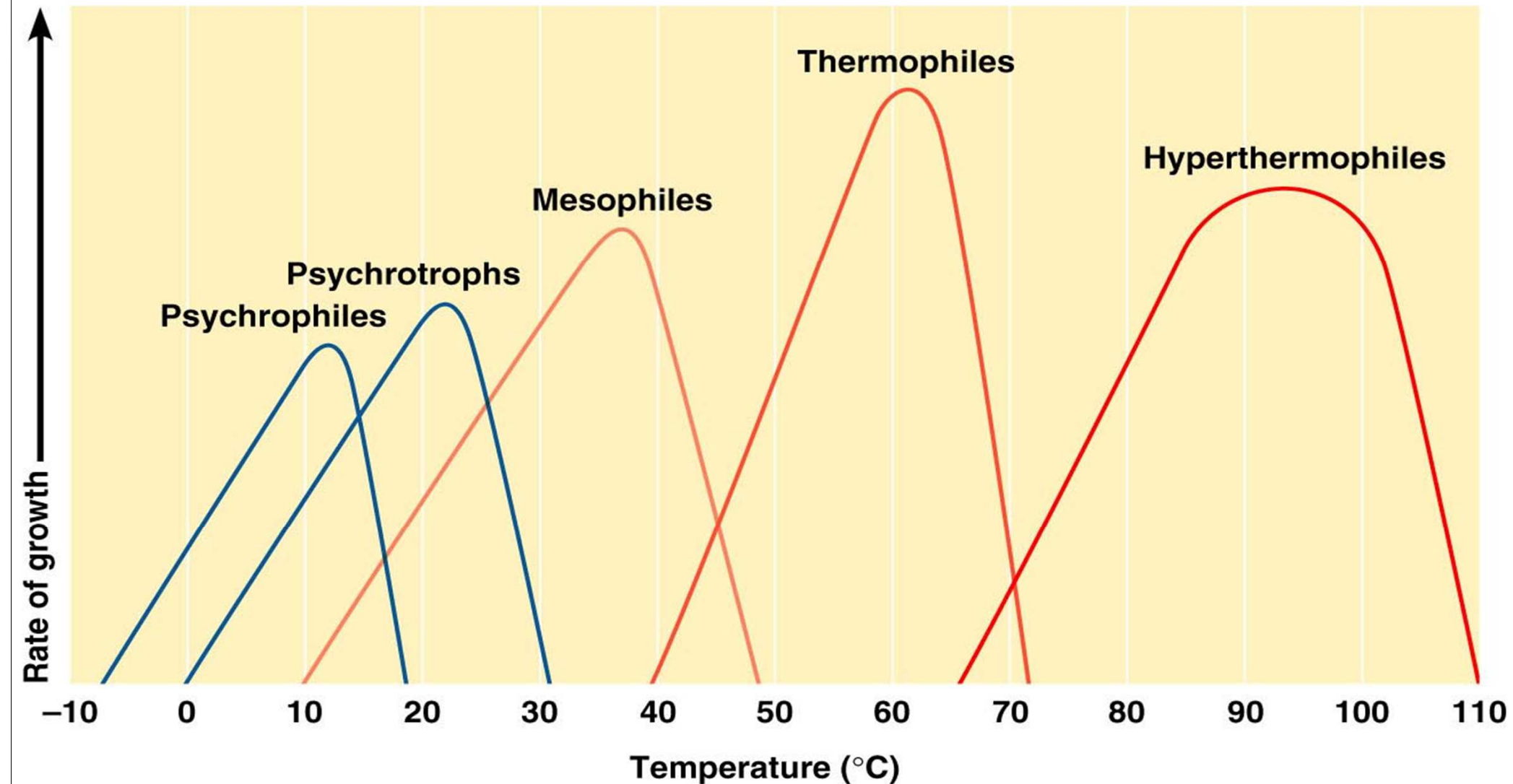


# TEMPERATURE ( CHARACTERISTIC RANGES)

- Psychrophiles: with optimum growth T around 20 C
- Mesophilic: between 15 and 45 with optimum around 37 C
- Thermophiles: between 30 and 75 with optimum around 55 C
- Hyperthermophiles: T greater than 100C



# TEMPERATURE AND BACTERIAL GROWTH



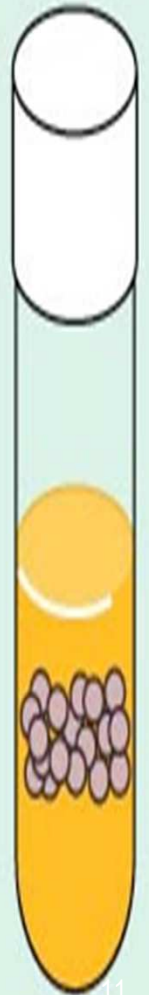
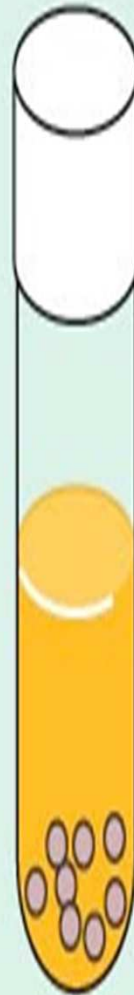
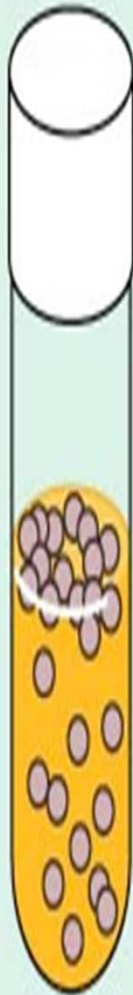
a. Obligate  
Aerobes

b. Facultative  
Anaerobes

c. Obligate  
Anaerobes

d. Aerotolerant  
Anaerobes

e. Micro-  
aerophiles



# THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GROWTH: PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

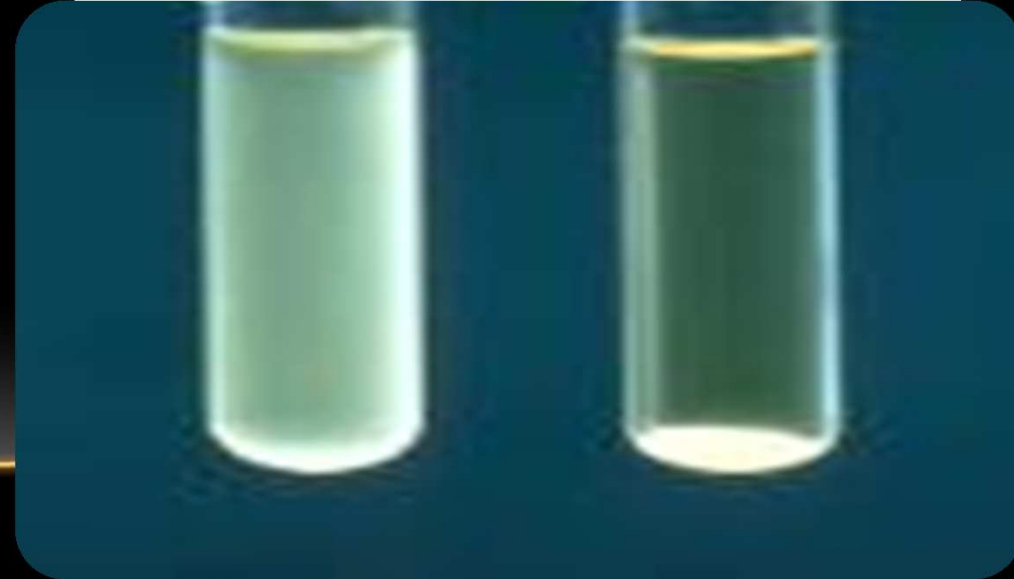
- **pH**
  - Most bacteria grow between pH 6.5 and 7.5
  - Molds and yeasts grow between pH 5 and 6
  - Acidophilic grow in acidic environments





# ***CULTURING***

- Used to grow bacteria
- Can be used to:
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# METHODS TO ISOLATE THE BACTERIA

- Streak culture
- Stroke
- Stab
- Pour plate
- Liquid culture
- Special methods for anaerobic cultures



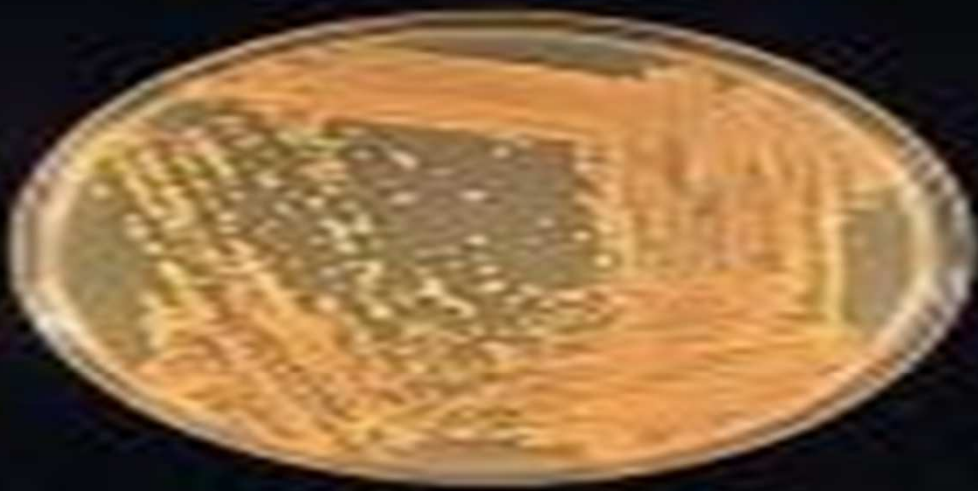
# How to inoculate a plate

## HOW TO INOCULATE A CULTURE PLATE

- Plate: provide large surface for isolation and observation of colonies
- Using a sterile loop or a sterile swab streak your sample on the Petri plate
- **Important let your sterilized loop cool before you pick up your sample**



# DIFFERENT METHODS OF CULTURING BACTERIA





# MACCONKEY AGAR

- **Example::** MacConkey agar has color indicator that distinguishes presence of acid. Bacteria that ferment a particular sugar (e.g., glucose in culture media) will produce acid wastes on plates, turn pH indicator red.



# COLONIES - MAKE A OBSERVATION



- Shape
- Size
- Elevation
- Edge
- Surface
- Opacity
- Consistency

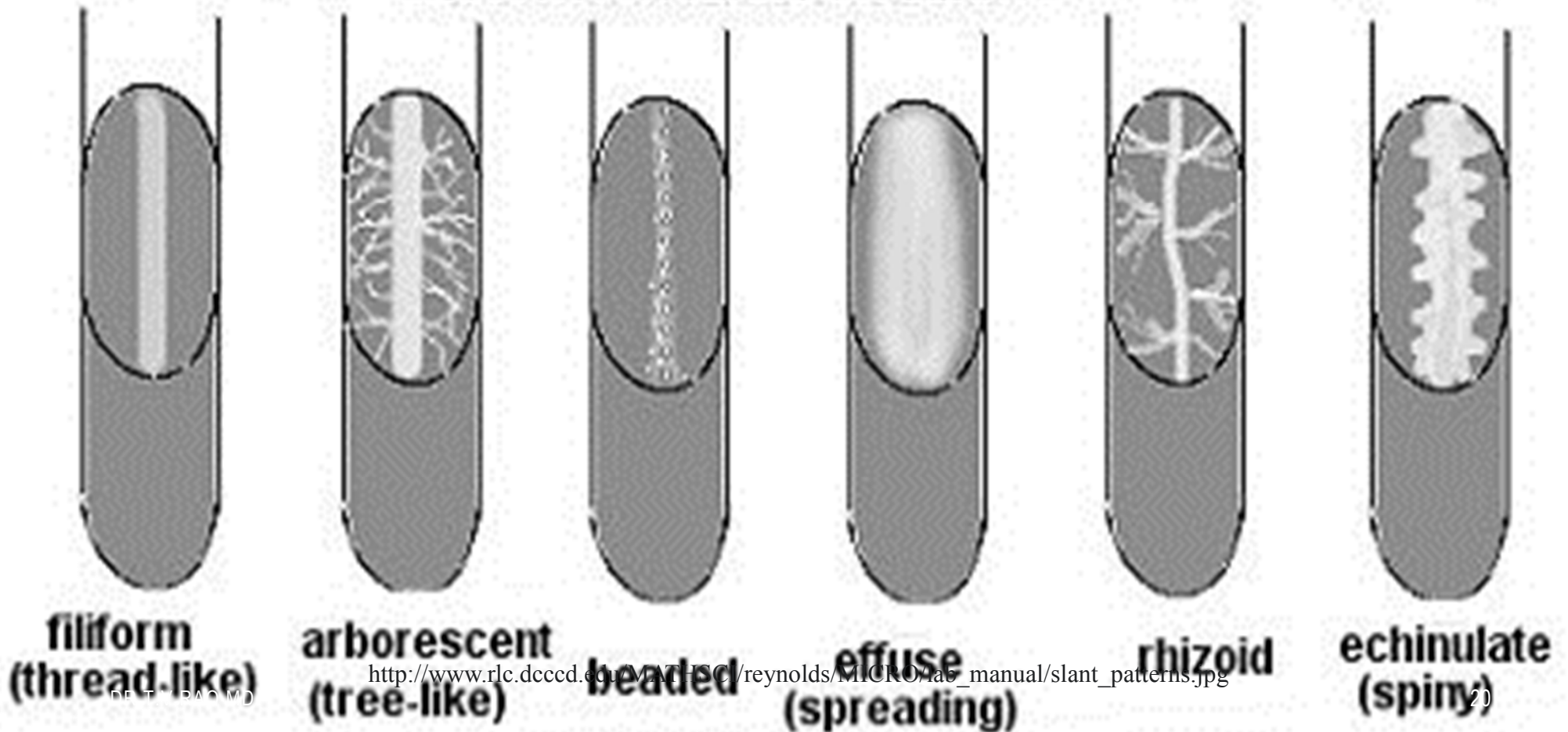
# LIQUID MEDIA

**Liquid media:** easiest to prepare and use. Good for growing quantities of microbes needed for analysis or experiments. Unless inoculated with pure culture, cannot separate different organisms.



# SLANT OBSERVATION

## GROWTH PATTERNS ON SLANTS





# STREAK CULTURE

- Lawn or carpet culture to create uniform surface of organisms
- Bacteriophages typing
- To obtain large amount of antigens

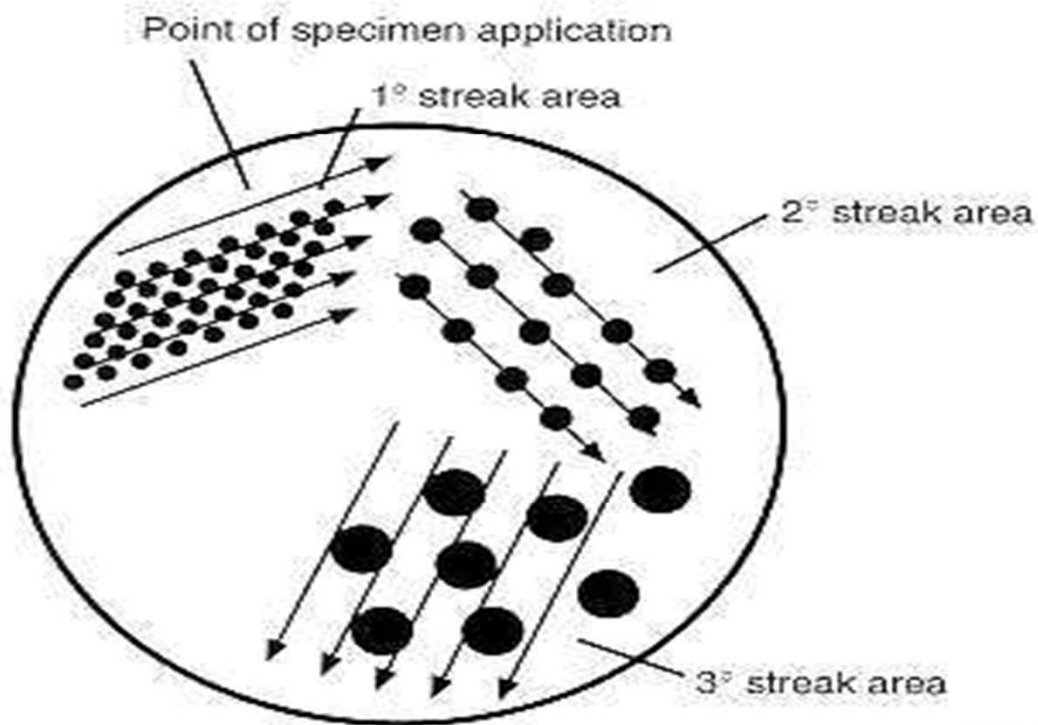


Growing bacteria. Here a sample of bacteria is being streaked onto a petri dish as part of the process of identifying the bacteria in the sample.

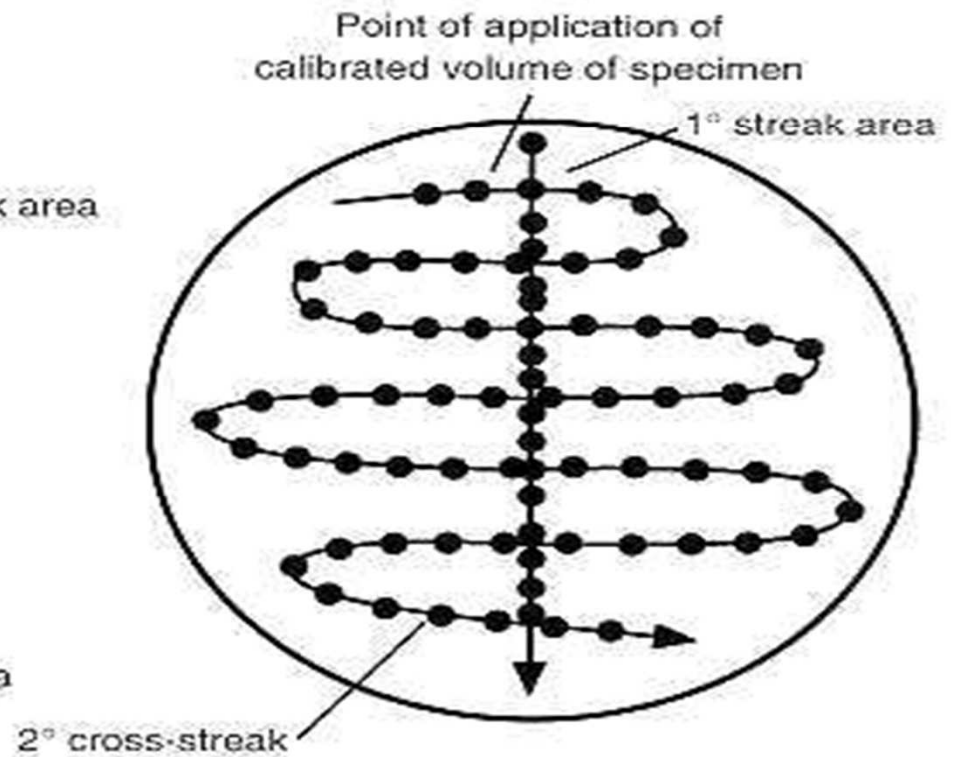
# CULTURING THE MICROBES NEEDS SKILLS

## Culture Plate Methods

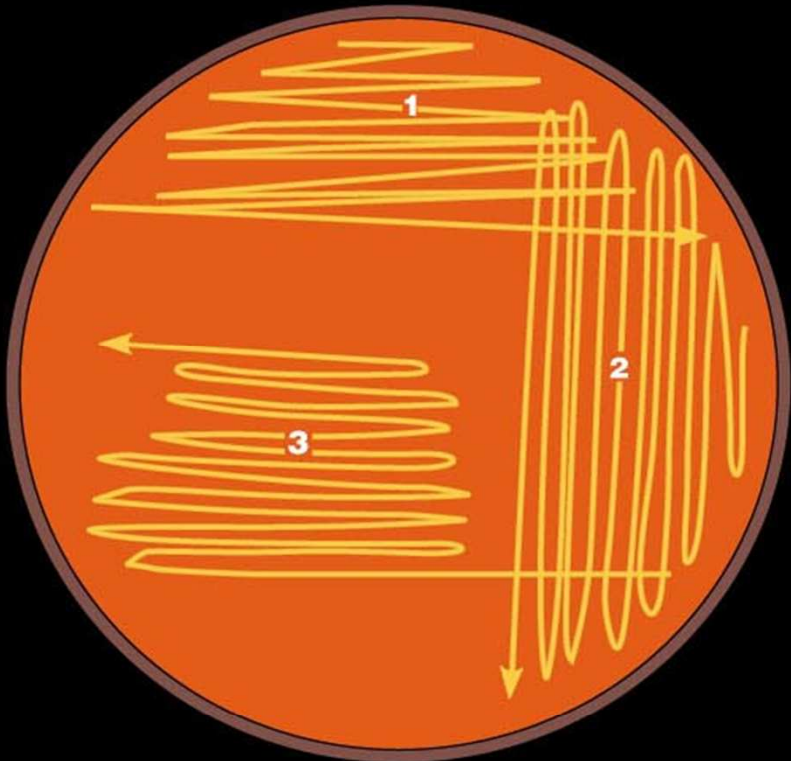
### Semi-quantitative



### Quantitative



# STREAK PLATE



**(a)** The direction of streaking is indicated by arrows. Streak series 1 is made from the original bacterial culture. The inoculating loop is sterilized following each streak series. In series 2 and 3, the loop picks up bacteria from the previous series, diluting the number of cells each time. There are numerous variants of such patterns.



**(b)** In series 3 of this example, notice that well-isolated colonies of bacteria of two different types, red and yellow, have been obtained.



# METHODS OF ISOLATION OF PURE CULTURE

- 1. Surface plating
- 2 Enrichment medium
- 3 Selective medium
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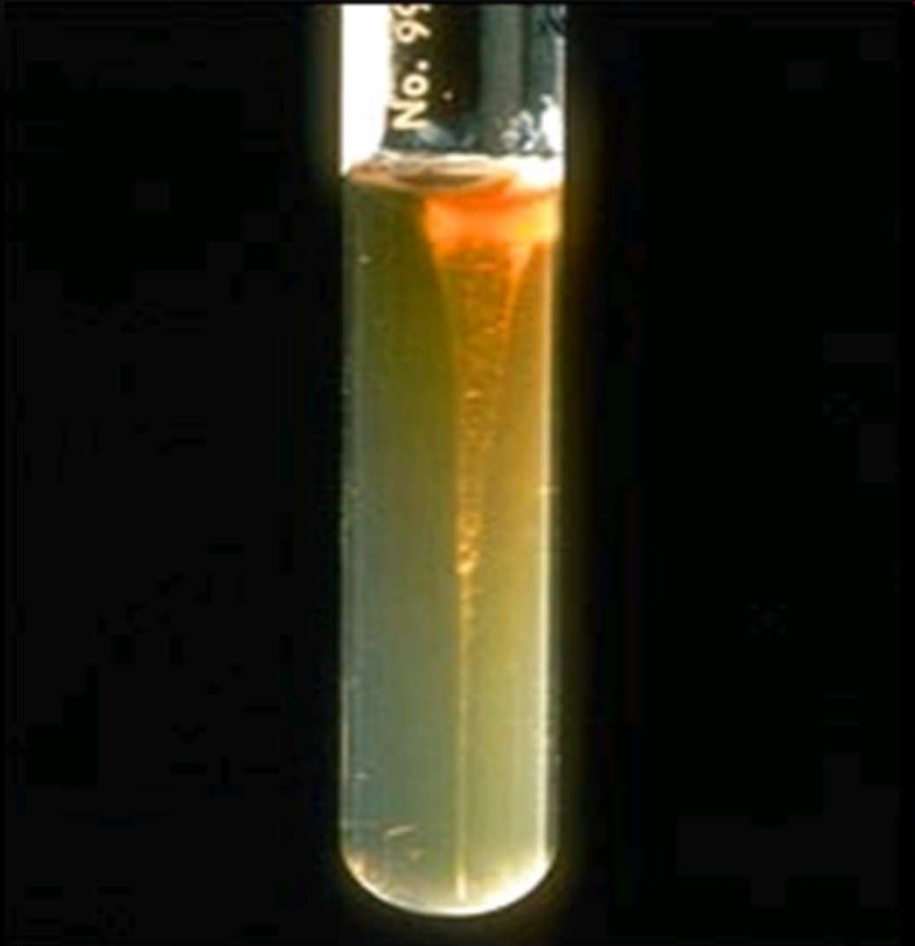


# LIQUID CULTURING

- Liquid cultures are done in
- Tubes
- Bottles
- Flasks
- Blood culture
- Water analysis

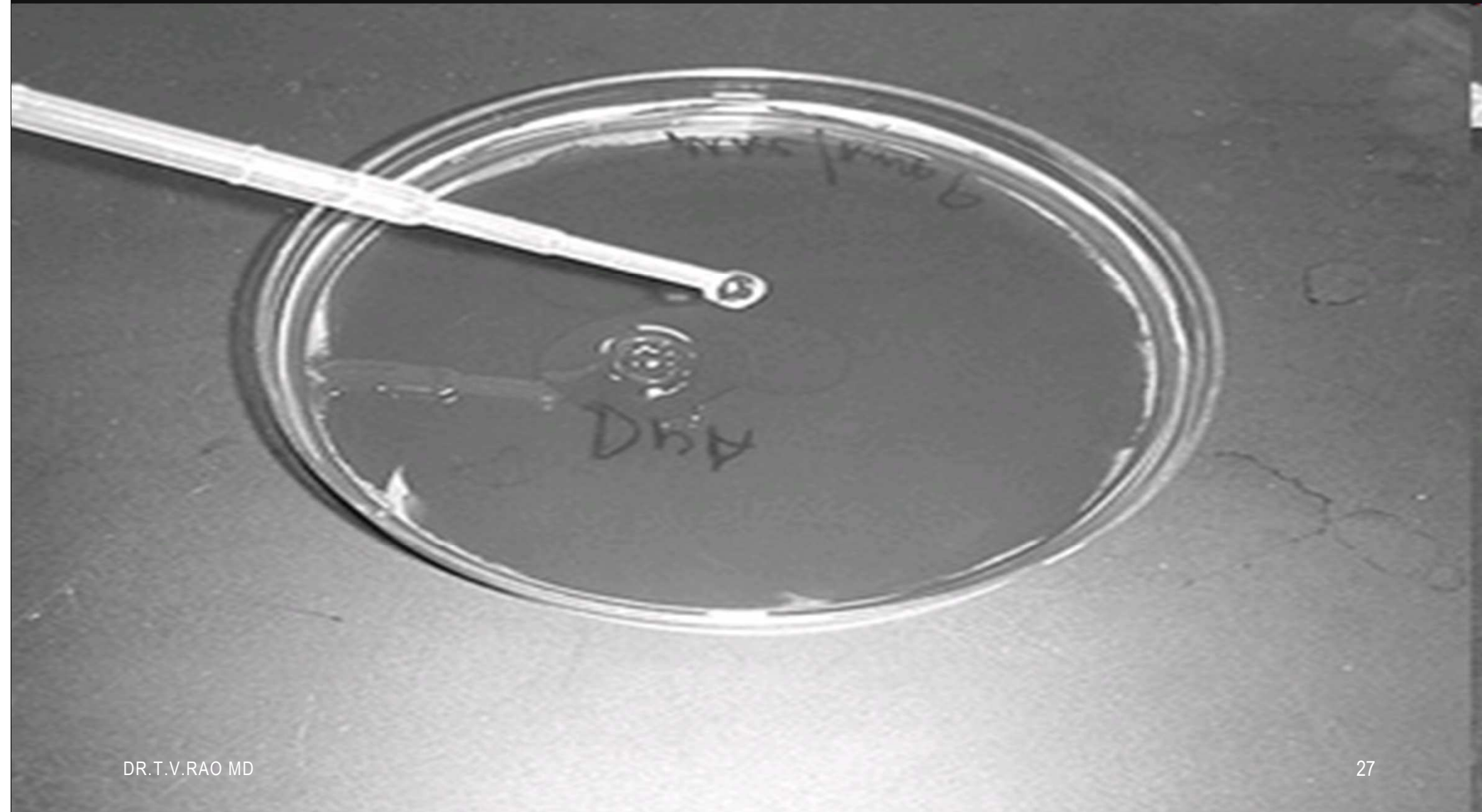


# STAB CULTURE



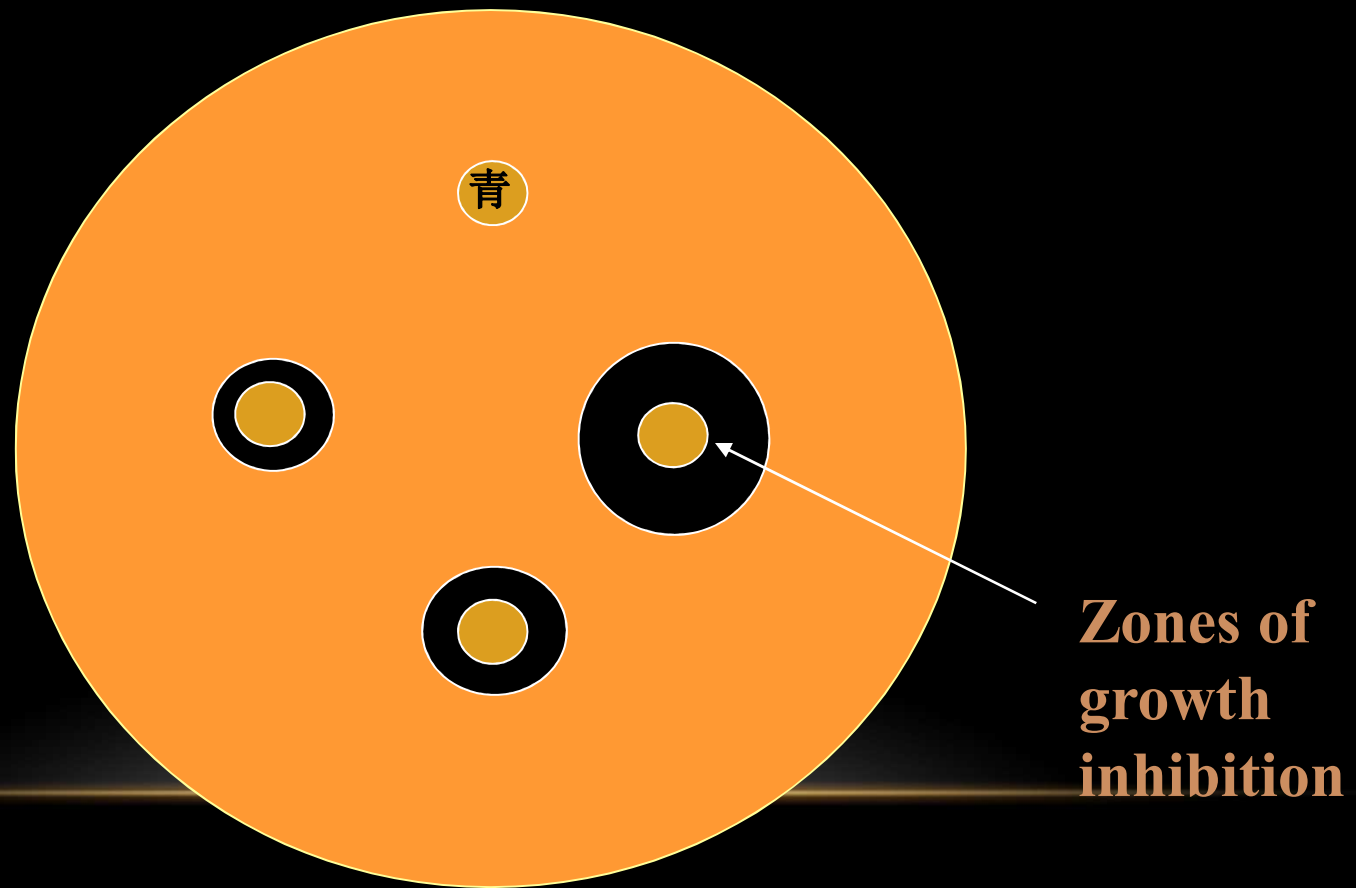
- Puncturing suitable medium such as nutrient agar, gelatin,
- Observe gelatin liquefaction
- Preserving the stock culture.

# SWEEP PLATE METHOD

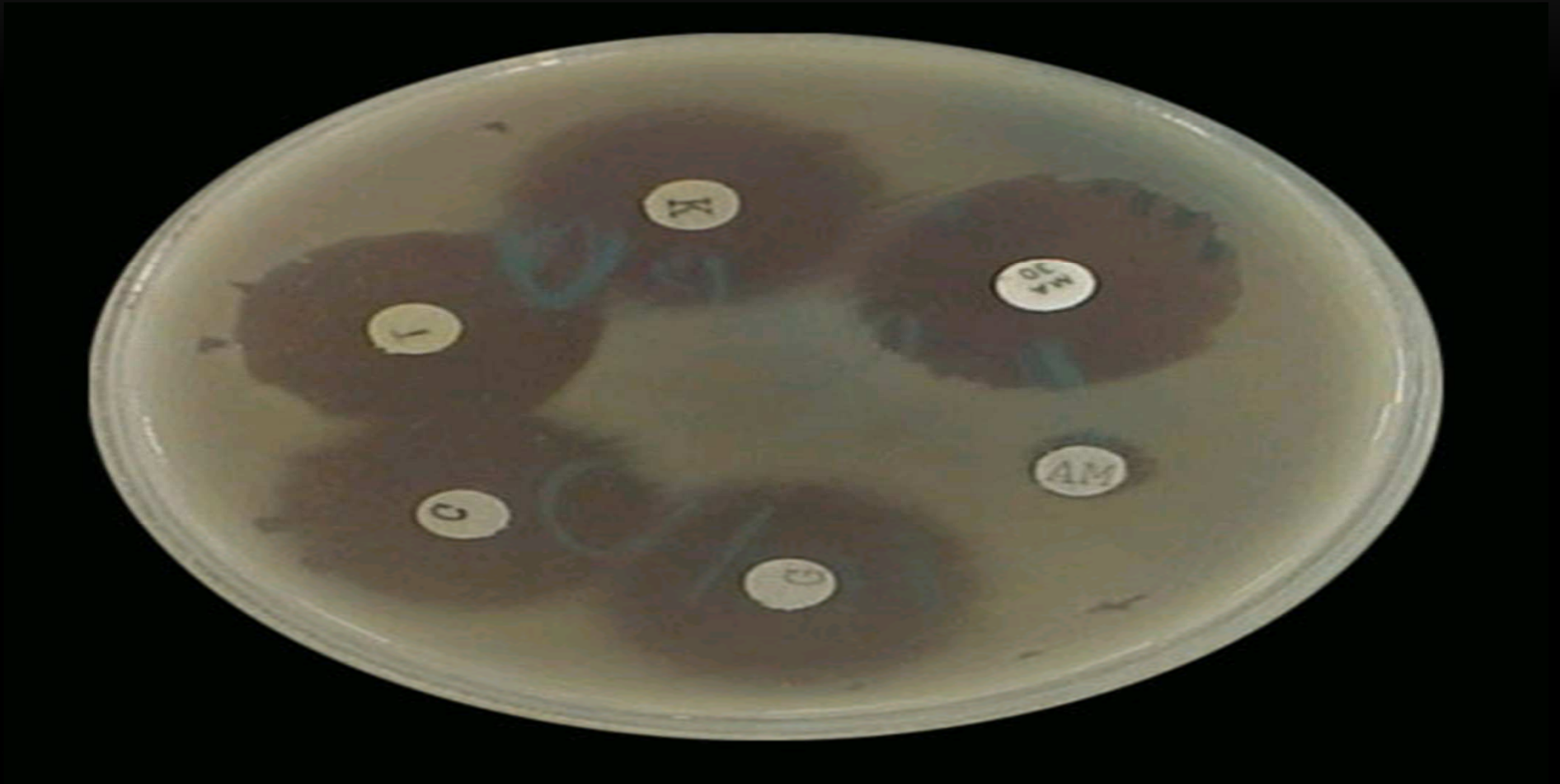


# ***MICROBIAL ANTIBIOTIC SUSCEPTIBILITY TEST***

***(THE AGAR DIFFUSION TEST )***



# MULLER HINTON AGAR FOR ANTIBIOTIC TESTING





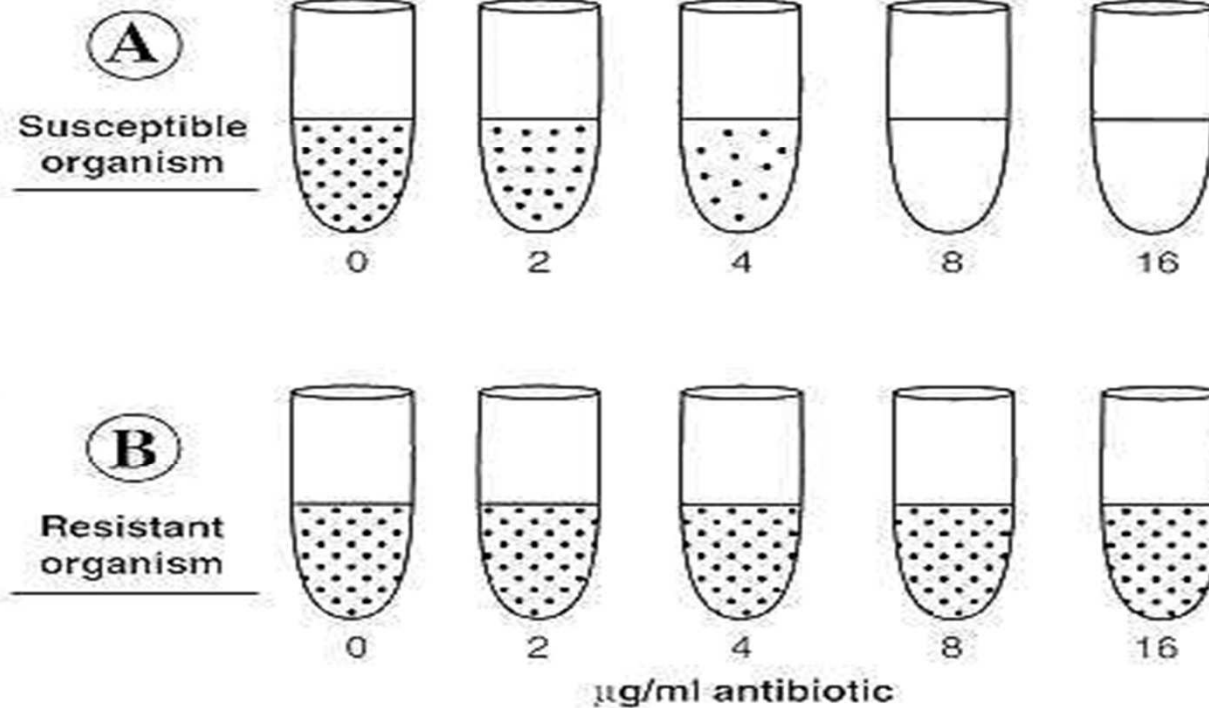
# MEASURING THE ZONE OF INHIBITION



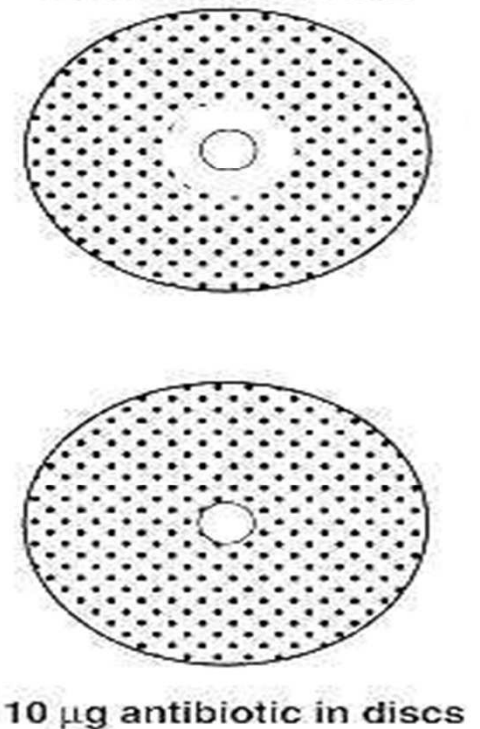
# MINIMUM INHIBITORY CONCENTRATION DETECTS ANTIBIOTIC SENSITIVITY PATTERNS

## Antibiotic susceptibility tests

### Minimum inhibitory concentration test



### Disk diffusion test



- Anaerobic Bacterial Isolation and Identification Needs specified conditions

# DESICCATOR

- In Desiccator some oxygen is left

Not suitable for fluid culture

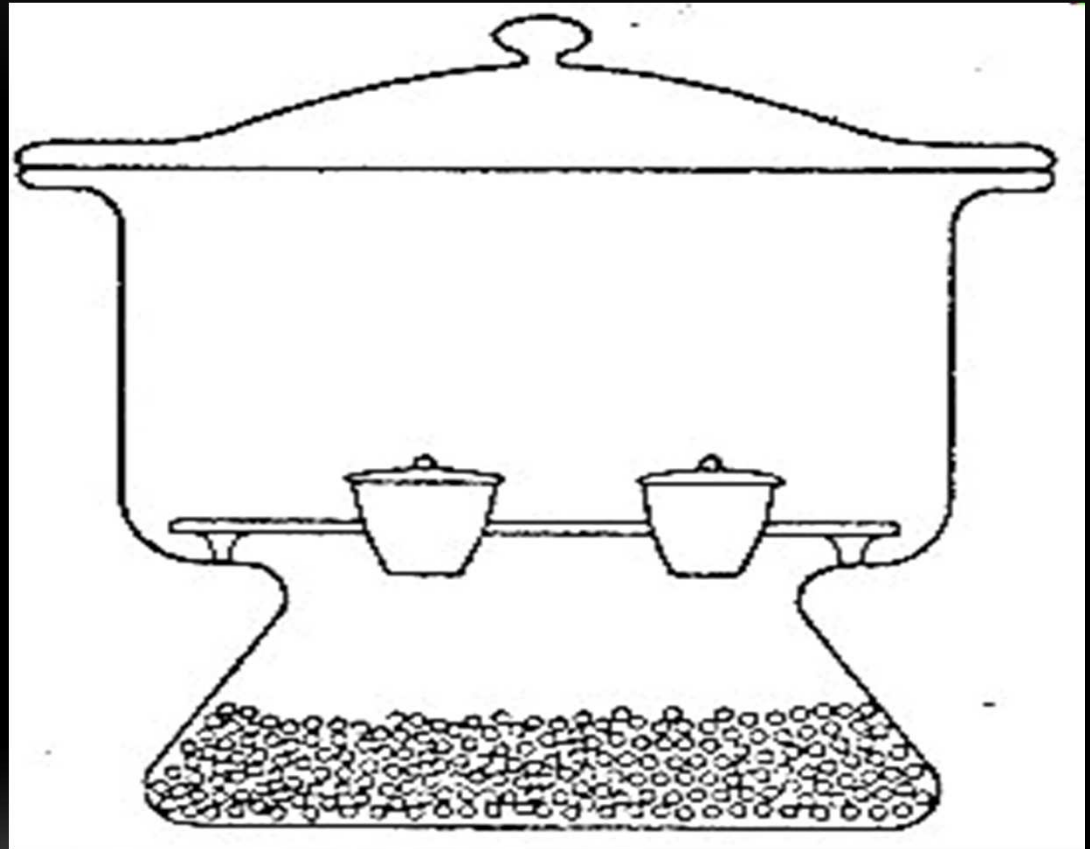
Displacement of oxygen is done with

Hydrogen

Nitrogen

Helium

Co<sub>2</sub>



# CANDLE JAR

- Inoculated plates are kept
- Burning candle use up all oxygen
- But a little  $O_2$  is left
- But presence of  $CO_2$  stimulates the most bacterium



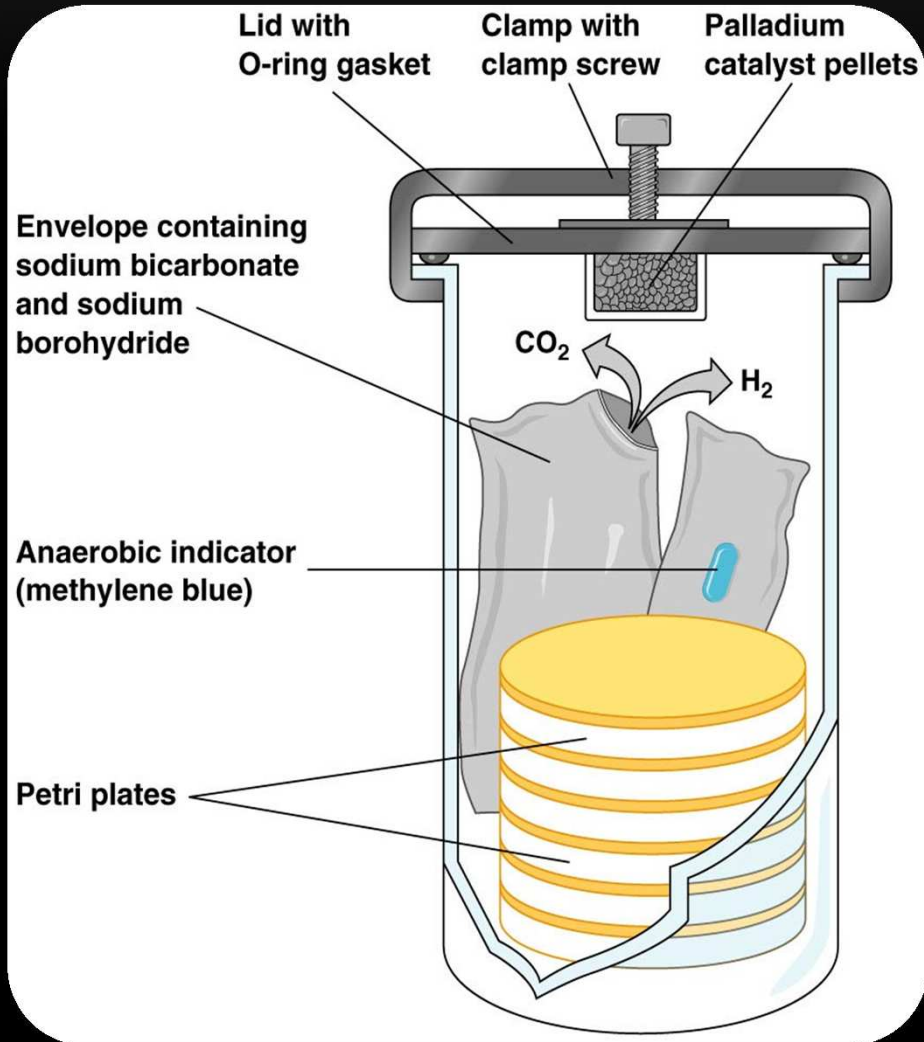


# MAC IN TOSH FILDES ANAEROBIC JAR

- Contain inlet and outlet
- Electrical supply
- Inoculated culture plates
- When electrified palladinised asbestos heating acts as catalyst for combination of hydrogen with residual oxygen causes complete anaerobiasis



# GAS PACK



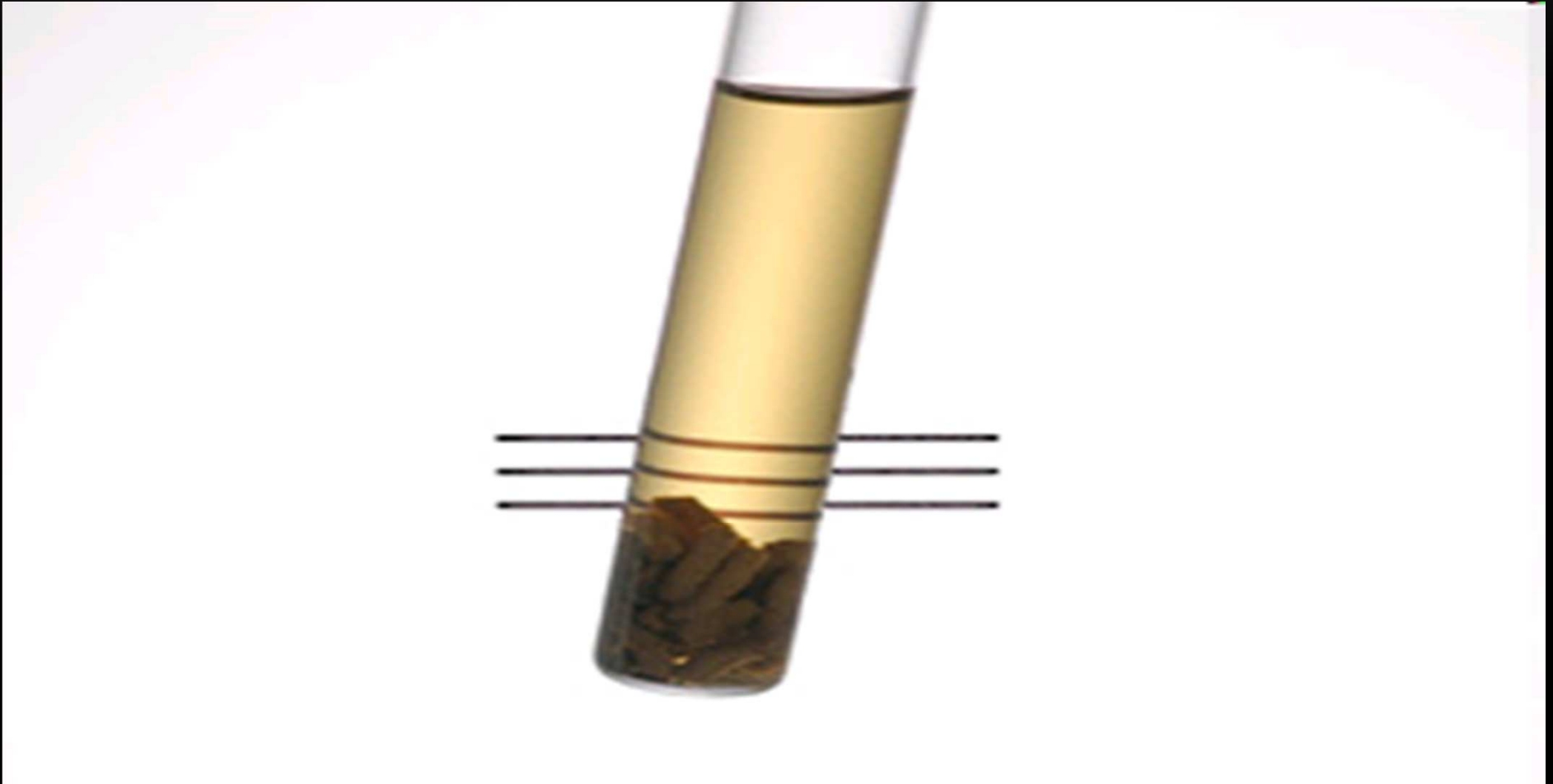
- A disposable envelop contains chemicals which generate hydrogen and carbon dioxide on addition of water
- Inoculated plates are kept in jar
- Water is added hydrogen and carbon dioxide are liberated
- Presence of cold catalyst in the envelop permits the combination of Hydrogen and oxygen to produce anaerobic environment
- Indicator is methylene blue
- Colorless when anaerobic environment.

# OTHER REDUCING AGENTS

- Reducing agents
  - 0.1% Thiglyclolate
  - 0.1% Ascorbic acid
  - 0.05 % cysteine

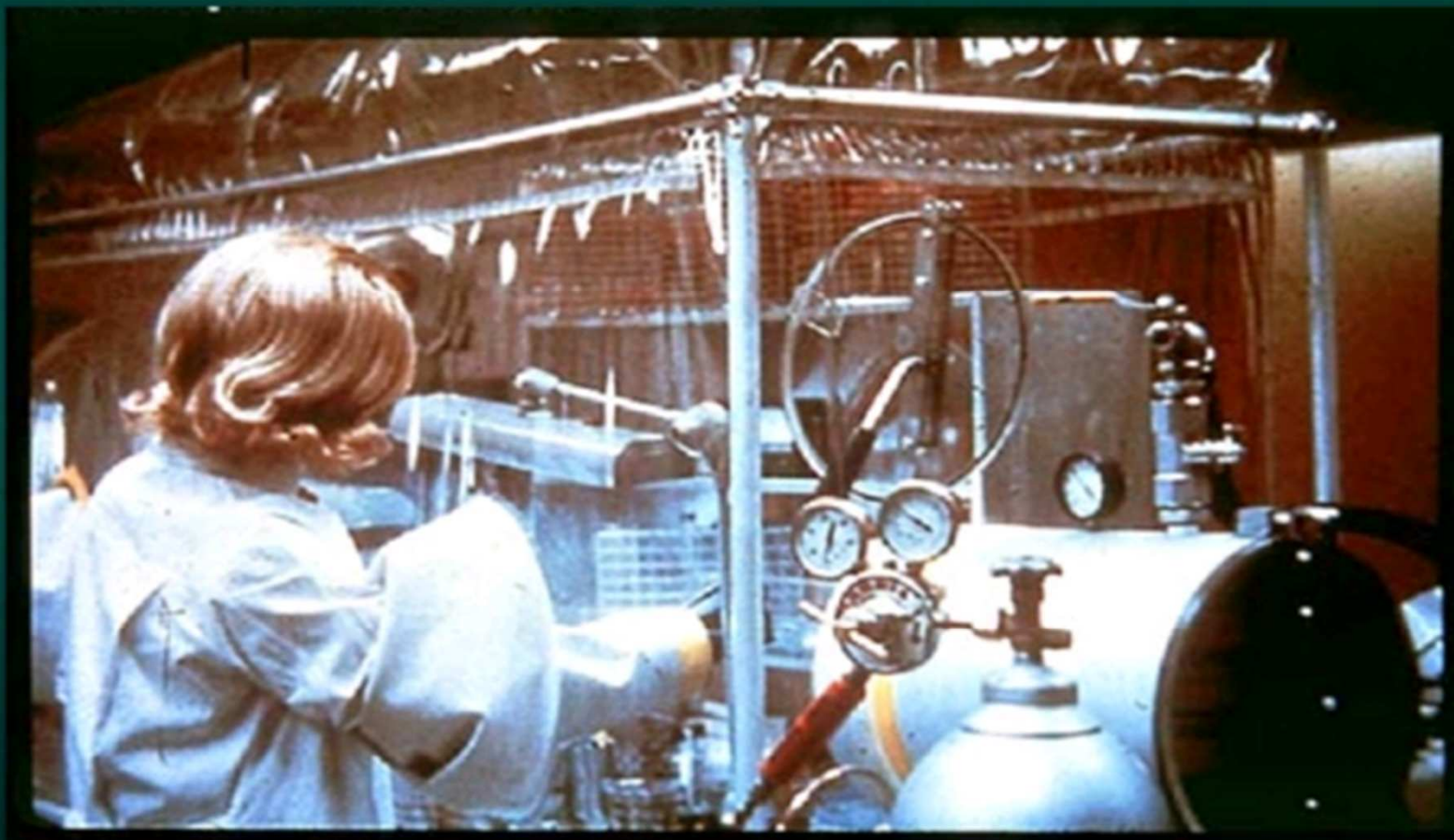


# ROBERTSON COOKED MEAT MEDIUM ROUTINELY USED IN ANAEROBIC SPORE BEARING BACTERIA





# An Anaerobic Culture Chamber



# **LOWENSTEIN JENSEN MEDIUM - CULTIVATION OF *MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS***

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# WORKING WITH MYCOBACTERIUM NEEDS BIOSAFETY CONCERNS



- Created by Dr.T.V.Rao MD for Basic learning on Culturing Bacteria for Medical and Paramedical students in Microbiology
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