



SAFETY DATA SHEET

AS-1328

www.ausamics.com.au

Plate Count Agar (PCA)

Prepared in accordance with Safe Work Australia GHS-based SDS requirements

Document Control

Version 2.0 · Reviewed 31 August 2026

Technical Review

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SECTION 1: Identification

Product Name	Plate Count Agar (PCA)
Synonyms	Standard Methods Agar; Tryptone Glucose Yeast Extract Agar
Catalogue Number	AS-1328
Recommended Use	Dehydrated microbiological culture medium — laboratory use only
Manufacturer	AuSaMicS Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
ABN	56 676 640 467
Emergency Contact	See www.ausamics.com.au for current contact details

SECTION 2: Hazard(s) Identification

Classification: Not classified as hazardous according to the criteria of Safe Work Australia (GHS 7th revision, as adopted in Australia). Not classified as a Dangerous Good under the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.

Signal Word	None allocated
Hazard Statements	None allocated
Precautionary Statements	None allocated
Pictograms	Not applicable — product is not classified as hazardous; no GHS pictograms are required for this SDS

Note: Although not classified as hazardous, the dehydrated powder may cause mechanical irritation to eyes, skin, and the respiratory tract due to its fine particulate nature. Standard laboratory hygiene practices should be observed.

SECTION 3: Composition / Information on Ingredients

Component	CAS No.	Concentration (w/w)
Tryptone (enzymatic digest of casein)	91079-40-2	≈ 21%
Yeast Extract	8013-01-2	≈ 11%
Glucose (Dextrose)	50-99-7	≈ 4%
Agar	9002-18-0	≈ 64%



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SECTION 4: First-Aid Measures

Route	First-Aid Response
Inhalation	Move to fresh air. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
Skin Contact	Wash affected area with soap and water.
Eye Contact	Rinse thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes, lifting eyelids. Seek medical advice if irritation persists.
Ingestion	Rinse mouth with water. Do not induce vomiting. Seek medical advice if unwell.

SECTION 5: Fire-Fighting Measures

Suitable Extinguishing Media	Water spray, foam, dry chemical, or carbon dioxide — product is not flammable
Specific Hazards	None known; combustion of organic dust may produce oxides of carbon and nitrogen
Protective Equipment	Self-contained breathing apparatus recommended for fire-fighters in enclosed spaces

SECTION 6: Accidental Release Measures

- Avoid generating dust; ventilate the area.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (see Section 8).
- Sweep or vacuum spilled material; avoid dry sweeping that generates dust.
- Place into a suitable, labelled container for disposal (see Section 13).
- Wash the spill area with water after collection.

SECTION 7: Handling and Storage

Handling	Avoid generating dust. Use with adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with eyes and prolonged skin contact. Wash hands after handling.
Storage (Dehydrated)	Store at 10–30°C in a tightly closed container, protected from moisture and light.
Storage (Prepared Medium)	Store at 2–8°C, protected from light. Use within 7 days of preparation.
Incompatible Materials	None known under normal use conditions.

SECTION 8: Exposure Controls / Personal Protection



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Exposure Limits	No specific workplace exposure standard established for this product; treat as nuisance dust (Safe Work Australia default: 10 mg/m ³ inspirable dust, 8-hr TWA)
Engineering Controls	Use in a well-ventilated area; local exhaust ventilation where dust generation is significant
Eye Protection	Safety glasses recommended when handling dehydrated powder
Skin Protection	Laboratory gloves recommended
Respiratory Protection	Not normally required; use a dust mask if handling large quantities or in poorly ventilated areas

SECTION 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

Property	Value
Appearance	Fine, homogeneous powder, light beige to tan
Odour	Slight, characteristic
pH (1% solution, prepared)	7.0 ± 0.2 at 25°C
Solubility in Water	Disperses on heating; forms a gel on cooling
Flammability	Not flammable
Melting/Decomposition	Not determined for the mixture

SECTION 10: Stability and Reactivity

Chemical Stability	Stable under recommended storage conditions
Conditions to Avoid	Excessive heat, moisture, direct sunlight
Incompatible Materials	None known
Hazardous Decomposition Products	Oxides of carbon and nitrogen may form on combustion

SECTION 11: Toxicological Information

No specific toxicological data are available for this product as a mixture. Individual components (tryptone, yeast extract, glucose, agar) are derived from food-grade or laboratory-grade materials with no known significant acute or chronic toxicity under normal conditions of laboratory use. May cause mechanical irritation to eyes and respiratory tract as a fine powder.

SECTION 12: Ecological Information



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The product is composed of biodegradable organic materials (protein digests, carbohydrates, and polysaccharide gelling agent). No specific ecotoxicological data are available. Not expected to present a significant environmental hazard under normal use and disposal conditions; avoid uncontrolled discharge of prepared (inoculated) medium into waterways.

SECTION 13: Disposal Considerations

- Dehydrated medium: dispose of as general solid waste in accordance with local council/EPA requirements, or via approved laboratory waste contractor.
- Prepared/inoculated medium: sterilise by autoclaving (121°C, 15 min minimum) prior to disposal, in accordance with institutional biosafety procedures.
- Do not discharge prepared or inoculated medium directly to sewer without appropriate treatment.

SECTION 14: Transport Information

UN Number	Not applicable — not classified as a Dangerous Good
Proper Shipping Name	Not applicable
Transport Hazard Class	Not applicable
Packing Group	Not applicable
Special Precautions	None — transport as a general laboratory chemical/reagent

SECTION 15: Regulatory Information

This product is not classified as hazardous under the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations and the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) as adopted by Safe Work Australia. Not listed as a Scheduled substance under the Poisons Standard (SUSMP). Not subject to the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code for transport.

SECTION 16: Other Information

Preparation Date	Refer to document issue date on cover
SDS Version	1.0
Prepared By	AuSaMicS Pty Ltd, Technical Department

This Safety Data Sheet has been prepared in accordance with Safe Work Australia's Code of Practice for Preparing Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals, adapted for a non-hazardous laboratory culture medium. Information is provided in good faith and is believed accurate as at the date of issue; it does not constitute a warranty of any kind. Users must evaluate suitability for their own conditions of use.

For laboratory, food, environmental, and industrial microbiology use only. Not intended for diagnostic or clinical use in humans or animals. AuSaMicS Pty Ltd (ABN 56 676 640 467) accepts no liability arising from use of this product outside the conditions described in this document.