

#### Intended use

Used for wet mount and staining of fungi.

### **Summary**

Wet mounting is the simplest and easiest technique for the examination of fungi. Routinely employed wet mounts in most of the laboratories include saline, iodine and buffered methylene blue. Lactophenol cotton blue wet mount preparation is commonly used for microscopic identification of fungi.

# **Principle**

It is formulated with lactophenol, which serves as the mounting fluid and the dye, cotton blue. Lactic acid preserves the fungal structure and clears the tissue while phenol acts as a disinfectant. The high concentration of phenol deactivates lytic cellular enzymes; thus, the cells do not lyse. Cotton blue is an acid dye that stains the chitin present in the cell walls. The stain imparts blue color on the fungal structures like the hyphae and spores.

# **Reagent / Contents**

Phenol	20.0 g
Cotton blue	0.05 g
Lactic acid	20.0 mL
Glycerol	20.0 mL
Distilled water	20.0 mL

<sup>\*\*</sup>Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

# **Appearance**

Ink blue coloured solution.

#### Storage and Stability

Store at 15°C-25°C in tightly closed container and away from bright light. The stability of Lactophenol Cotton Blue is as per the expiry date mentioned on the label.

### Materials required but not provided

Clean grease-free glass slide, forceps, staining rack, blotting paper, microscope.

### **Type of Specimen**

Isolated fungal colony on culture plates can be used from following specimens. Clinical specimen: Blood, urine, CSF, pus, wounds, lesions, body tissues, sputum etc. Environment: Air, water, soil, sludge, wastewater, food, dairy samples.

#### **Procedure**

- 1. Place 2-3 drops of Lactophenol Cotton Blue stain on the slide.
- 2. Add fungal culture to the drops of Lactophenol Cotton Blue.
- 3. Carefully tease fungal culture using forceps as to prepare a thin preparation.
- 4. Place a coverslip on the preparation.
- 5. Allow to stand for 5 minutes.
- 6. Observe under microscope.

### **Interpretation of Results**

Fungal structures such as hyphae and spores are stained blue in colour.

#### Warning

Lactophenol Cotton Blue is a reagent set for laboratory use only.

Phenol is toxic in nature and causes burns. Avoid contact with skin and eyes.









# **Warranty**

This product is designed to perform as described on the label and pack insert. The manufacturer disclaims any implied warranty of use and sale for any other purpose.

#### References

- 1. Dixon, D.M; A.Polak-Wyss, 1991. Medically important dematiaceous fungi & their identification, Mycoses, 34:1-18.
- 2. Mackie and McCartney, Practical Medical Microbiology
- 3. Merck Index.
- 4. Data on file: UltaCare Diagnostics .

### Disclaimer

Information provided is based on our inhouse technical data on file, it is recommended that user should validate at his end for suitable use of the product.

