Name	Selective contains an inhibitor to slow/inhibit the growth of undesired organisms	Differential differentiates closely related microbes based on their calar, colony morphology; colonies are visually distinguished on the basis of same biochemical difference	Explanation and Examples
NUTRIENT AGAR (NA)	No – it is an undefined (complex) medium in which at least one ingredient is of unknown identity or amount	No	 enriched medium, contains numerous nutrients widely used general purpose medium for growing a wide variety of nonfastidious microorganisms typically contains: 0.5% Peptone, 0.3% beef extract/yeast extract, 1.5% agar, 0.5% NaCl, distilled H₂O, pH adjusted to 7.0 at 25 °C agar is a phycocolloid extracted from a group of red-purple marine alga agar is a gel at RT, remains firm at 65°C, melts at around 85°C, and solidifies at 32-40°C
BLOOD AGAR	No – it is an undefined (complex) medium; a general purpose enriched medium often used to grow fastidious microbes	Yes – used to differentiate bacteria based on their hemolytic properties:	to read the hemolytic pattern, the plate must be held up to a light source and observed with transmitted light • alpha (α) hemolytic bacteria; partial or incomplete hemolysis; agar greenish (or brownish) around bacterial colonies; reduction of hemoglobin to methemoglobin; on prolonged incubation, many alpha hemolytic bacteria will begin to appear clear Examples: Streptococcus pneumonia and oral streptococci • beta (β) hemolytic bacteria; complete or true hemolysis; agar clear (or yellowish) around bacterial colonies; toxins destroy RBCs Examples: Streptococcus pyogenes; Staphylococcus aureus;
			 Pseudomonas aeruginosa; Listeria monocytogenes gamma (γ) hemolytic bacteria; no hemolysis; lack of clearing; agar color unchanged around bacterial colonies Examples: Staphylococcus epidermidis; Enterococcus faecalis
EOSIN-METHYLENE BLUE (EMB) AGAR	Yes – Gram (-) bacteria grow while Gram (+) bacteria inhibited by the eosin and methylene blue dyes	Yes – Gram (-) bacteria form colonies of different colors; this differentiates lactose fermenters (blue-black) from non-fermenters (colorless or light purple)	 used for isolation of fecal coliforms under acidic conditions, a dark purple complex usually accompanied by a green metallic sheen produced which serves as an indicator of the vigorous lactose and/or sucrose fermentation typical of fecal coliforms smaller amounts of acid production (typical of slow lactose fermenters) result in a pink coloration of the growth non-fermenters remain their normal color or take on the coloration of the medium E. coli - dark metallic blue-black colonies; strong lactose fermenter Enterobacter aerogenes - pink colonies; smaller amount of acid Klebsiella pneumonia - brown colonies; no fermentation

MANNITOL SALT AGAR (MSA)	Yes – due to the presence of salt (NaCl); selective for staphylococci since most other bacteria cannot survive	Yes – due to the presence of mannitol; the pH indicator phenol red is yellow below pH 6.8, red at pH 7.4 to 8.4 and pink above 8.4; if bacteria ferment mannitol and converts it to lactic acid, the pH of the agar changes and pink pH sensitive dye in the agar turns yellow	 used for isolation and differentiation of pathogenic staphylococci, mainly <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> contains the carbohydrate mannitol, 7.5% NaCl and the pH indicator phenol red pathogenic species of Staphylococcus ferment mannitol and produce acid, which turns the pH indicator yellow nonpathogenic staphylococcal species grow but do not ferment mannitol, the pink pH sensitive dye is unchanged (<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>) the development of yellow halos around the bacterial growth is presumptive evidence that the organism is a pathogenic Staphylococcus (generally <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>) some strains of <i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> are inhibited by MSA colonies of <i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> are small and red whereas those of <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> are slightly larger and yellow
BBL ENTEROTUBE-II	N/A	Yes – as it has twelve different media that allow the determination of 15 biochemical reactions; the resulting combination of reactions, together with the interpretation codebook, allow identification of clinically significant <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>	 rapid, multi test system used to identify Enterobacteriaceae and a variety of other oxidase negative Gram (-) rods that cause gastrointestinal and urinary infections utilizes carbohydrates, principally via fermentation and oxidation catalase positive and nearly all of them are oxidase negative
CHOCOLATE II AGAR	No	No	 enriched medium that allows the isolation and cultivation of Neisseria or Haemophilus species (both are fastidious bacteria) contains casein, peptones, phosphate buffer, corn starch, bovine hemoglobin also contains an enrichment supplement of amino and nucleic acids to encourage growth of Neisseria species and provide the X and V blood factors required by Hemophilus species plated medium is typically streaked for isolation and incubated at 37°C in an aerobic environment enriched with CO₂
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