

# The National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria

NCIMB



NCIMB manages the National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria: the UK's biggest repository for reference strains of environmental and industrially useful bacteria, plasmids and bacteriophages. Strains in the collection have a wide range of potential applications such as the production of antibiotics and industrial enzymes, disinfectant testing, QC procedures, bioremediation and food production.



## Benefits

- Orders for reference strains and QC cultures received before 14:00 hours can usually be dispatched for next day delivery
- All reference and QC strains are supplied under the terms of our Material Transfer Agreement which allows scientists greater flexibility in the responsible use of our strains
- All our QC cultures are produced directly from authenticated NCIMB seed stock and are thus a guaranteed first generation culture
- Depositing in the National Open Collection is free of charge for bacteria, plasmids and bacteriophages that meet our criteria
- Depositing type strains at NCIMB complies with the Bacteriological Code for naming and describing new species and we provide the required certification for publication proposes
- We can work with partners to look for novel properties in our strains that may lead to new products or industrial applications

## Reference strains

Most strains within the collection are available for immediate dispatch, freeze-dried in sealed glass ampoules, but can be sent as active cultures if required. Bacteriophages and plasmids are supplied as thawed liquid suspensions in plastic vials.

## QC cultures

For customers with high throughput requirements we supply a range of commonly used QC cultures in three easy to use formats: glass ampoules, screw top vials and MicroSnap. All our QC cultures are certified first generation reference strains produced to ISO 9001:2008 standards.

Glass ampoules and screw top vials are convenient for single use procedures such as quality assurance testing of culture media. They contain a filter paper strip impregnated with freeze dried culture, which can be dropped directly in or onto the appropriate medium.

We produce a selected range of QC cultures in the MicroSnap format. This is a plastic device comprised of two chambers. The upper chamber contains a resuscitation fluid and





the lower chamber contains the freeze dried microorganism. When activated by a simple snapping motion, the resuscitation fluid enters the lower chamber which, followed by mixing, renders the cultures fit for immediate use through the swab attached to the upper chamber.

A wider range of NCIMB strains are available in QC formats from Microbiologics, our only licensed derivative partner.

## Genomic DNA

Today, microbiologists study the genetic properties of microorganisms and are often less interested in culturing and maintaining their own stocks. To address this need, genomic DNA is available from many of NCIMB's well-characterized and authenticated strains, saving you the time and expense of culturing and isolating DNA in your own laboratory.

Our high quality DNA is isolated under aseptic conditions from actively grown cultures and evaluated for purity and quality by:

- Agarose gel electrophoresis
- Spectrophotometry (Nanodrop and Q Bit)
- Suitability for amplification by PCR
- Sequencing of the 16S ribosomal RNA gene (first ~500 base pairs) to check consistency with the source bacteria

## New additions to the collection

The culture collection is an invaluable genetic resource for researchers, education and industry, and we welcome new deposits that meet our remit. NCIMB can accept bacteria in ACDP hazard groups 1 and 2, plasmids contained in a bacterial host, and bacteriophages. Type strains and organisms with new or novel properties, enzymes or metabolites are particularly welcome.

Deposits in the open culture collection are accepted on the understanding that, subject to any health, safety, environmental or other legal or ethical constraints on their distribution, we will make them generally available to the scientific community.



NCIMB also offers a patent deposit service under the Budapest Treaty, as well as confidential off-site storage services and GMP secure storage of commercially valuable strains with recall carried out strictly according to client instructions.

## Contact us

Contact us to enquire about availability of specific strains or use the catalogue search on our website, where you can also find information about pricing, delivery, growth media and resuscitation procedures, as well as the forms required for depositing a new strain. Our highly experienced staff are available to offer advice and answer any questions you might have.

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