

## **MEYE + BL – Malt Extract-Yeast Extract + Beef Liver Agar**

*For growing Syncephalis in pure culture*

Modified from Ellis Liver Media (Ellis 1966) and Malt Extract-Yeast Extract Agar (Benjamin 1958, 1959; Benny and Benjamin 1975)

### **Formula:**

Malt extract, 3 g;  
Yeast extract, 3 g;  
Peptone, 5 g;  
Dextrose, 10 g;  
Agar, 15 or 20 g;  
Distilled water, 1 L  
Baby beef liver, 2-5 g

### **Directions:**

- 1) Mix malt extract, yeast extract, peptone, dextrose, and agar in water
- 2) Process liver:
  - Thaw and wash a slab of baby beef liver with a few changes of distilled water
  - Drain
- 3) Autoclave media mixture and beef liver, in separate containers, at 121 °C for 20-30 min
- 4) Allow liver to cool, cut into 0.5-1.0 cm cubes with sterile blade and place 1-3 cubes in empty, sterile petri plates
- 5) Pour plates, making sure to not completely cover beef liver
- 6) Allow plates to cool and solidify
- 7) With forceps, inoculate only *Syncephalis* hyphae from a dual *Syncephalis*-host culture, directly onto liver cube
- 8) Parafilm and store plates at 20-23 °C
- 9) Monitor 5-14 days for pure parasite growth, most easily determined by the presence of only fine hyphae, and occasionally *Syncephalis* sporganigophores