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Mating type tests on plates with wild-type strains as testers.

Mating type tests can be made on agar plates by a method similar to that described by Smith (1962 Neurospora Newsl. 1: 14), except that wild type strains are used as tester female parents instead of the mutant spray. The medium consists of Westergaard and Mitchell's salts with 0.5% sorbose and 0.1% sucrose. This sorbose/sucrose ratio inhibits mycelial spreading and conidiation without inhibiting the production of protoperithecia. In addition, the plates are kept in the dark to further reduce conidiation. Protoperithecia are formed within 5 days after inoculation. A grid can then be made on the petri dish and the plate can be fertilized with the strains to be tested in the usual manner. - - - Department of Biological Sciences, State University of New York at Albany, Albany, New York 12203.