

Frost, L. C. Conidiating media for *Neurospora*.

The following media, promoting conidiation, have been found effective for over 100 different wild, morphological or biochemical mutant strains of

*Neurospora* spp. when large supplies of conidia were required experimentally or for the maintenance of frequently used stock cultures:-

(1) Bacto-peptone Medium. 0.4% bacto-peptone (British Drug Houses) is added to Fries salt solution (Beadle and Tatum, 1945), biotin (4 per litre) 2% glucose and 2% agar. The pH of the medium is about 5 and no adjustment is made (but see McNelly this Newsletter for histidine mutants). Wild, morphological and amino-acid mutant strains conidiate abundantly, especially arginine and lysine strains and arginine, lysine double mutants. However, some purine, pyrimidine and vitamin mutants give poor results. This medium was devised by Frost, 1955 (Ph.D. Thesis, Cambridge University).

(2) Malt, Peptone and Yeast Medium. To the Fries salt solution and biotin as above are added:- glycerol 15 ccs., glucose 2.5 grms., malt extract (British Pharmacopoeia) 2.5 ccs., bacto-peptone (BDH) 0.5 grms., yeast extract (Difco) 2.5 grms., agar 20 grms. and distilled water to 1 litre. No adjustment of pH is made. This medium has given good results with wild and all classes of mutant strains tested, with very few exceptions.

The salt solution, Medium 'N' of Vogel, gives poor results with either of the above media.