

## Simmons Citrate Agar Slant

### Principle:

Used for the differentiation and identification of Enterobacteriaceae on the basis of citrate utilization, citrate being the sole carbon source.

### Purpose:

Colonies capable of utilizing citrate as a carbon source produce a local increase in pH, changing the color of the medium from green to blue. Only citrate positive organisms will grow on this medium.

### Test Procedure:

1. Inoculate the organism directly onto the surface of a Citrate slant.
2. Incubate aerobically at 35-37°C.
3. Examine for growth and color change after 18-24 hours of incubation.

### Interpretations:

Good growth with the medium color turning blue indicative of *Enterobacter aerogenes* and *Salmonella choleraesuis*.

