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Storage of culture media in polyethylene bags

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Abstract

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Mitchell, M. B. Storage of culture media in polyethylene bags.

Polyethylene bags of the sort sold for home freezing of foods have been found very convenient for packaging agar slants, agar plates, or even tubes of liquid media, which are kept on hand, stored under refrigeration. No rack or other support is needed for tubes. They may simply be packed into the bags whose tops are then secured. Thus refrigerator space is conserved and evaporation of water from media is much more effectively retarded than by wrappings of foil or waxed paper. The bags may be re-used repeatedly. Petri dishes should be placed upright and tubes should be plugged with non-absorbent cotton to prevent contaminants from being carried inside the vessels by condensed moisture which has been in contact with external surfaces. ---Biology Division, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California.