

*P*assage of *Ectocarpus* cultures

Cultured Ectocarpus strains should be transferred to fresh medium every 1 to 3 weeks, depending on the strain, experiment, conditions etc. Transfers should be done in a horizontal laminar flow hood.

1. Prepare a bottle of autoclaved natural seawater (NSW) supplemented with Provasoli (10 ml of Provasoli enrichment for 1 litre of NSW; this is “half-strength” compared to the original Provasoli recipe) and add the seawater to pre-sterilized 55, 90 or 140 mm Petri dishes (8, 30 or 90 ml, respectively). To avoid spilling, you may use a 25 ml pipette or a sterilised Erlenmeyer flask closed by an aluminium cover.
2. Prepare a sterilised Pasteur pipette, and/or rinse steel needles or fine forceps in 100% ethanol. Using either of these instruments, transfer *Ectocarpus* material to a pre-filled Petri dish, which was labelled before the transfer. Seal with parafilm and incubate at a chosen temperature (we routinely use 13, 14 or 18 °C).

If medium needs to be replaced in a Petri dish already containing biological material (usually stuck to the bottom), pour the old medium into the waste. To avoid contamination of the medium in the bottle do not pour directly onto the culture, add the medium using a 25 ml pipette.

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