

***Colpidium* spp.**

**Note:** The culturing conditions below are not necessarily the optimal growth conditions for each strain, as much variation is found between strains, and cultures are not always kept in optimal growth conditions at CCAP for practical reasons. There may be more info in the individual strain data on the website.

**On receipt of culture:** cultures should be subcultured into fresh sterile medium as described below, ideally within a few days of receipt. If the culture vessel is very full on receipt and subculturing cannot be done immediately, we advise transferring half of the culture to a sterile container to provide air space.

**ACDP Hazard Gp:** 1 - Non pathogenic / non hazardous. Unlikely to cause human disease.

**Culture Medium:** These ciliates are cultured in S/W (soil/water biphasic medium) plus a barley grain, in this medium the cultures can be sustained for longer; and also in NCL medium which gives a 'cleaner' culture if this is needed.

Media recipes can be found on our website: [www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/](http://www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/)

**Lighting:** not required

**Light Cycle:** -

**Temperature:** 15 degrees C

**Sub Interval:** 12 weeks (at CCAP, may vary depending on environment)

**Culture Vessel:** glass test tubes

**Culture Method:**

Transfer the media required from 4 degrees C to 15 degrees C approx. 1 hour prior to use.

To inoculate the fresh media a dense culture is chosen from existing stocks. The state of the culture is ascertained by microscopic examination using an inverted microscope at x120.

To subculture, the inoculating tube is gently agitated to mix the cells evenly within the medium and 1-2ml of culture is poured aseptically into each of the new tubes. We inoculate from two dense NCL tubes into 3 x NCL and 3 x S/W plus barley.

Seal the tubes with parafilm and incubate at 15 degrees C.

**Use strict aseptic techniques throughout and if possible carry out all subculturing within a laminar flow cabinet (particularly important for axenic strains).**