

Colpoda steinii

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: This ciliate is kept in S/W (soil/water biphasic medium) plus a barley grain, where it rapidly grows dense cultures; and also in NCL medium where cultures are not so dense, but the ciliate forms cysts which attach to the walls of the tube at and below the meniscus.

Media recipes can be found on our website: www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/

Lighting: low light or dark

Light Cycle: -

Temperature: 15 degrees C

Sub Interval: 8 weeks (at CCAP, may vary depending on environment), however encysted cultures may remain viable for several months.

Culture Vessel: glass test tubes (or plastic)

Culture Method:

Tubes containing the media are stored at 4 degrees C. One hour prior to use the required number of tubes (of both media if required) are transferred to 15 degrees C.

Established cultures are examined microscopically, and a dense culture is selected. Gently swirl/agitate the inoculating culture to disperse the cells, and pour 1-2ml of culture aseptically into each of the new tubes. If using S/W add a barley grain to each tube to encourage growth of the bacteria on which the ciliate feeds.

Seal 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).