

Pleurostomum flabellatum

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: ASW300 plus wheat grain

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

Lighting: dark or low light

Light Cycle: -

Temperature: 35-40 degrees C

Sub Interval: 4-6 months (at CCAP, may vary depending on environment)

Culture Vessel: 50ml tissue culture flask

Culture Method:

Prepare fresh culture flasks with 20-30ml of medium and a boiled wheat grain (to encourage growth of the bacteria the protist feeds on).

To inoculate the fresh media, a dense culture is chosen from existing stocks. The state of the culture is ascertained by using a microscope.

To subculture, swirl the selected flask to ensure uniform distribution of the protists, then pour some of the culture into a flask containing fresh sterile medium.

Note that it is usual for older culture flasks to contain salt crystals, this will not harm the flagellate.

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