Urotricha 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: If the culture vessel is very full on receipt, 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: MWC:Volvic (5:1 mixture) plus *Cryptomonas* sp. as food.
Media recipes can be found on our website: www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/

Lighting: ~50 mol m-2 s-1

Light Cycle: 12h light : 12h dark

Temperature: 15 degrees C

Sub Interval: 7 weeks

Culture Vessel: 50ml vented tissue culture flasks.

Culture Method:

We keep two 50ml glass flasks of *Cryptomonas* – also in MWC:Volvic (5:1). Use one to feed the *Urotricha* and one to create two new subcultures to increase in density ready for the next *Urotricha* subculture.

Subculturing *Urotricha*:

Check flask for density under an inverted microscope. Put ~25 mls fresh sterile media into a new flask then using a pipette add *Cryptomonas* culture to the 30 ml mark. Pour 5-10mls of that fresh media/*Cryptomonas* into the flask you are subculturing from. Gently shake the flask to resuspend the cells then pour into the new flask until media level is back at the 30ml mark. Put the flasks upright at 15 degrees C under reduced light, or with a black mesh sheet over the top to slightly reduce the light levels.

The older culture can be kept as a backup for a few weeks.

Use strict aseptic techniques throughout and if possible carry out all subculturing within a laminar flow cabinet.