



FACTORS REGULATING ENVIRONMENTAL BIOTRANSFORMATION OF ORGANIC P – THE ROLE OF MICROBIAL COMMUNITY

Microbiology

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ABSTRACT

Environmental biotransformation is elemental in the growth of the organic plants and organisms. This growth is often facilitated by the development and the role-played by the microbial communities in the soil. The various activities of these complex communities of the microbes have an impact on the biological or biogeochemical transformations, engineered and managed ecosystems. Important segments of the community include the evaluation of the functional pathways for the energy flows and the nutrient resource, the mechanistic comprehension of the interactions between the microbial population and its environments, and the properties of these communities. In addition, the factors and the role of the microbial community are evident in the system stability, biological diversity, and the functional redundancy. In this dissertation, Organic P is an elemental compound and is part of the nucleic acids, proteins, and the other organic compounds. The use and the consumption of the various nutrients by the microorganisms in the soils are dependent on the types of the nutrients utilized. These nutrients on the other hand, are dependent on the types of mediums used because every medium has various nutrition elements.

Phosphorus and phosphates are also other significant elements and compounds that exist in most of the animal and plant tissues. The experiment sought to collect as well as measure and evaluate the data from the inorganic and organic P, with anticipated results of determining whether a change or shift in the mineralization capacities of P are caused by the manipulation of the microbial populations through the conditioning on the specific media. As such, the media analyses of the sources of Phosphorus that contribute to the biogeochemical transformations include Lactose, Luria Bertani Broth, Nutrient Broth, Tryptone Soya Broth, and Cooked Meat Media. The analysis of these media in the determination of the components of the discussion and the understanding the role of the microbial community in the biotransformation of the Organic P. that is, an understanding of the preference of the microorganisms to the five media is important in explaining the factors that affect or regulate the biotransformation.

KEYWORDS

Lactose, cooked meat media, phosphatase assay

1.BACKGROUND

Phosphorus is one of the important elements that constitute the body of most minerals in addition to green plants and animal tissues (Parson & Smith 2008). It is an essential component of the proteins, nucleic acids, and other organic compounds. Phosphorus exists in various forms of phosphate molecules in minerals, plants, and animal tissues. Organic P forms an integral compound in the biosphere and it is present in all living organisms to survive (Sibag & Kim 2012). Since Organic P is part of proteins, nucleic acids, and other organic compounds, they are readily returned to the soil upon the death of an organism (Benitez 2000). Fat fish bones creates conditions for phosphorus-rich rock formation, which in turn serve as a source of phosphorus in the biogenic cycle (Quinn et al, 2007). According to Wallmann (2011), the main sources of inorganic phosphorus are geogenic. Phosphates are present in deep waters but have little role in global P-cycling, (Oehmen, 2007). Thus, phosphorus moves slowly from the phosphate deposits on land and in shallow ocean sediments, to living organisms and back. After the mineralization process, organic P is transformed into H_2PO_4 , also known as orthophosphate. Chemical transformation of P from organic to inorganic forms is commonly performed by rhizosphere microorganisms (Bordel 2011). This is the key component of the Phosphorus cycle and it is initiated by an organic P imbalance in an ecosystem. Precipitation or biomineralisation of authigenic minerals such as phosphates, carbonates, sulphides, oxides and silicates, is also a biological process (Delgado et al 2013). In marine habitats, this is made possible by the existence of a symbiotic relationship between coralline sponge and bacteria (Cray et al 1996). Studies conducted by Cowan et al (2013) on assessment of temporal and spatial evolution of bacterial communities indicate that biomineralisation depends on the physiochemical parameters of the culture media, such as concentration and pH of the bacteria species, as well as the physical state of the media.

Geochemical sources of inorganic phosphorus in the soil constituted by the recalcitrant by calcium phosphates insoluble (for example, apatite, hydroxyapatite, phosphates), are associated with neutral and alkaline soils (in acid soils predominate salt of iron and aluminum) (Wallmann, 2013). This phosphorus compound that forms a part of the minerals is inaccessible or poorly available to plants. However, other microorganisms can convert the insoluble phosphoric acid compound, and make it soluble (Ullah, 2013). These include representatives of bacteria, actinomycetes, fungi, and other groups of microorganisms (genus *Pseudomonas*, *Bacillus*, *Micrococcus*, *Mycobacterium*,

Penicillium, and *Aspergillum*). They are responsible for the dissolution of complex inorganic P the synthesis of plant growth promoting substances and synthesis of organic acids. During the solubilization, these genera produce different types of organic acids altering the pH and the physicochemical environment. Consequently, the bonds that hold phosphates are dissociated. P, a formidable bio fertilizer, can be made by the interaction of the microorganisms mentioned above. This interaction proves that by the introduction of these microorganisms to the soil P can be made available making them a formidable bio fertilizer. Dissolution of phosphates in soil occurs due to the formation of carbon dioxide (Monma, 2006). Mobilization of insoluble phosphorus compounds also occurs due to the formation of organic acids by microorganisms from incomplete oxidation ketoacidosis or their carbohydrate fermentation. In some cases, the dissolution of phosphates promotes nitric acid formed by nitrifying bacteria, and sulfuric acid, which appears as a result of bacteria that oxidize sulfur (Sibag & Kim, 2012). This increases the availability of phosphorus for plants.

To be able to measure the quantity and quality of the inorganic P, in different environments and situations, we normally use flow methods, using inorganic P in solution state. There is a number of available methods for measuring inorganic P: flow injection analysis (FIA), segment flow analysis (SFA), sequential injection analysis (SIA), and all injection analysis (AIA).

The aim of the project is to collect and measure data from organic and inorganic P, in the expectation of notice whether a shift in the P mineralization capacities are due to manipulation of microbial population through conditioning on specific media.

2.METHODS

Phosphatase assay

Tryptone Soya Broth (TSB, Oxoid Ltd., ID number CM 0129) was made up of half of the concentration (half-strength). The amount of the media corresponded to 15 g of TSB, dissolved in 1 litre of purified filtered water. Was sterilized in autoclave, before pouring into ten 100ml Duran bottles.

1 g of "Hartwood soil", collected on the 28th April, 2015, was weighted and inoculated into one of the flasks. The flasks, under the SCTP were incubated at 25 °C in 150 spm for 36 hours, being subtracted by the researcher every 2 days.

An enrichment culture was made up by ¼ strength. Triplicates procedures were used to complete the experiment. The experiment was based on a previously published work by Tabatabai and Bremner (1969).

9 tubes were prepared, and reagents were added: 4 ml of deionized water, 0.25 ml of toluene (100%) or 0.25 ml of 0.5 M of Phenol, and 1 ml of 0.015 M 4-nitrophenyl di (tris) salt. All of the previously mentioned chemicals were freshly made before the experiment (Eivazi & Tabatabai, 1977).

Table 1 Carbon-based media used on the experiment

Media	Supplies (ID number)	Concentration 25%	Concentration 50%	Concentration 100%	Type of carbon-based structure
Lactose Broth	FLUKA (70142)	0.98g	1.9g	3.9g	Lactose
Nutrient Broth	OXOID (CM0067)	1.9g	3.75g	7.5g	Lab-Lemco powder (meat extract)
Luria Bertoni Broth (LB Broth)	SIGMA (L3022-250G)	1.5g	3g	6.0g	Yeast Extract
Tryptone Soya Both (TSB)	OXOID (CM0129)	2.25g	4.5	9.0g	Glucose 2.5
Cooked Media Medium	OXOID (CM81)	2.5g per 100ml	5 g per 100ml	10.0g per 100ml	Glucose 2.0

The 45 samples received 1 ml of enrichment soil culture, each. This enrichment soil culture was the same as mentioned previously. The media was incubated, and accessed at three sampling periods. The incubation system was stored under controlled conditions (at 24 °C and 150 spm). The media undertook a Phosphatase Assay. This process took place at each of the sampling points.

1.1.Determining the characteristics of the media

Five chosen media presented the optimum features to work with (concentration 25%). The medias with concentration of 25% presented both the optimum levels of operation, and, because in comparison with the other concentrations (50% and 100%), they were very similar. Being the cheapest and easier to work with, the 25% concentration media was the one choose for the experiment.

After the incubation period, 1 ml of each of the five media was added to flasks containing milk and containing meat. They were replicated three times, making a total count of 30 flasks (15 containing milk powder, and 15 containing meat powder). The milk media was Skim Milk Powder, (Oxoid Ltd., ID number LP0031). The meat powder media was the same previously used (see Table 1).

Those media were managed and measured every 12 hours for a full 3-day period. From those measurements, the results were obtained: PO_4^{3-} through Acetic Acid Digestion. For this process, 1 ml from the sample was used, either milk or meat, and then added 9 ml of 2.5% acetic acid. The sample was filtered through the filter paper and then it was diluted to a 50% concentration, by adding 4.9 ml of acetic acid and 100 μ l from either the milk or meat media.

The samples were measured by the Flow Injection Analysis process (FIA – Foss Teacator 5027 Sampler), according to Gerez et al. (2014). The two reagents used in the FIA system were Stannous Chloride and Ammonium Molybdate

PH measurement. For this process, we took 1 ml from the media, either milk or meat, and measured pH using a pH meter (HANNA Instruments Ltd.).

Colony Forming Unity (CFU). For this process, TSB was used at half-strength mixed with agar and put into a Petri plate. After adding the media to the Petri plate, and incubating in a 25 °C environment, It was measured the culture growth on a daily basis.

Data Analysis

All the media experiments were assessed with the t-test, to notice if there is any significant difference between treatments. The normality test measured is considered significant if $p \leq 0.05$.

Ethics:

This study was approved by the Research Committee in the UK.

1.RESULTS

Milk effluent

There are a significant difference between the presented preparatory

The test tubes with the chemicals were covered and incubated for 1 hour, in a 37 °C water bath. After the period of incubation, a reagent was added to the test tubes. The reagent used was 1 ml of 0.5 M of sodium hydroxide.

The tube was shaken for approximately 30 seconds, in order to be properly mixed. The solution absorbance was then measured, using a spectrophotometer (Spectronic Camspec Ltd. M107), at a wavelength of 400 nm.

media. For instance, while the LB and the CMM have distinct growth rates, both present same correlation while as long as they are exposed to the experiment time.

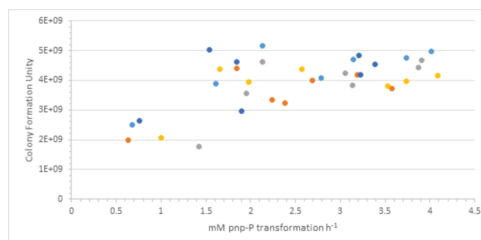


Figure 1 Variation of Colony Forming in a Milk effluent, showing the activity of pnp in different medias increased with time and the biomass. The preparatory media are lactose ●, Nutrient Broth ●, Tryptone Soya Broth ●, Luria Bertani Broth ●, Cooked Meat Media ●.

In Figure 2, there is no significant variation of the PO_4^{3-} in the media during the period. However, in the 60th hour mark, an increase in all of the media could be noticed. After that, all of the measurements dropped slightly.

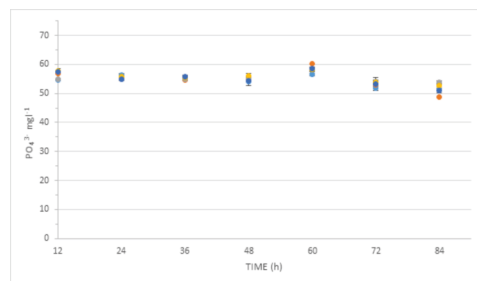


Figure 2 Variation of PO_4^{3-} through time. The preparatory media in this example are: Cooked Meat Media ●, Tryptone Soya Broth ●, Nutrient Broth ●, Lactose ●, Luria Bertani Broth ●.

In Figure 3, the pH in the Milk Effluent did not show variation through time progression in the media used in the experiment. The exception can be seen in the period between 24 and 36 hours, where the pH has increased to more than 7.

Milk Effluent/pH	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
lac	5.9	7.22	7.15	6.54	6.33	5.803	5.86
nb	6.06	7.37	7.16	6.55	6.28	5.786	5.92
tsb	6.18	7.37	7.06	6.54	6.3	5.766	5.93
lb	6.23	7.40	7.05	6.56	6.30	5.78	5.93
cmm	6.27	7.29	6.91	6.54	6.27	5.766	5.93
Standard Error	0.15	0.07	0.10	0.009	0.02	0.015	0.03

Figure The pH results from the media used, and their standard error.

MEAT EFFLUENT

As it can be seen in Figure 4, there is no significant difference between the media, while experimenting with the Meat effluent. Moreover, all the media seems to have increased during the period of the experiment.

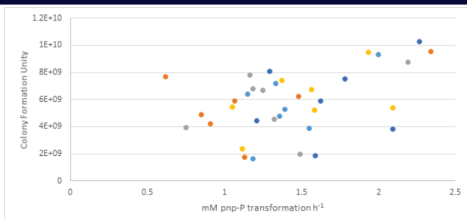


Figure 4 Variation of Colony Forming in a Meat effluent, showing the activity of pnp in different medias increased with time and the biomass. The preparatory media are Lactose ●, Nutrient Broth ●, Tryptone Soya Broth ●, Luria Bertani Broth ●, Cooked Meat Media ●

As it can be seen in Figure 5, there is no significant variation on the PO_4^{3-} during the period. However, in the first 36 hours, the amount of PO_4^{3-} were similar. On the 48th hour mark, the Nutrient Broth, Lactose and Luria Bertani Broth media reached their peak. On the 72nd hour mark, the Tryptone Soya Broth and the Cooked Meat Media have achieved their highest measurements. At the end of the period, all but the Tryptone Soya Broth presented a decline. The TSB remained above the mark of 48 mg/L.

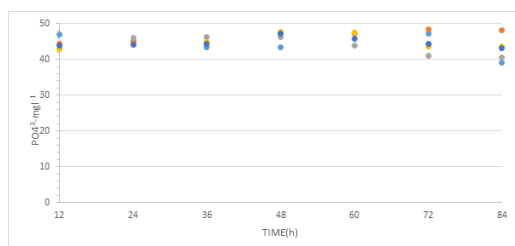


Figure 5 Variation of PO_4^{3-} through time. The preparatory media in this example are: Cooked Meat Media ●, Tryptone Soya Broth ●, Nutrient Broth ●, Lactose ●, Luria Bertani Broth ●

All media shown in Figure 6, when experimented in the Meat Media, presented similar pH from the beginning, and have shown a constant and gradual growth. The peak of the pH measurement was at the 84th hour mark.

Meat effluent/pH	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
Lac	6.733	6.67	7.55	7.766	8.27	8.116	8.64
NB	6.753	6.733	7.63	7.773	8.3	8.18	8.61
TSB	6.66	6.66	7.53	7.753	8.24	7.976	8.60
LB	6.733	6.78	7.68	7.846	8.36	8.163	8.65
CMM	6.586	6.73	7.59	7.76	8.24	8.066	8.61
Standard Error	0.069	0.049	0.063	0.038	0.05	0.082	0.01

Figure 6 The pH results from the media used, and their standard error.

1.DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The milk and meat media form the basis of the analysis of the roles of the microbial community in the regulation of the biotransformation of the Organic P. As such, the five media for analysis are components of the milk and meat media, which are the basic sources of proteins or other nutrients necessary for the growth and the activity of the microbes. With reference to Figure 1, it is evident that there is an increase in assay of the phosphatase as well as the colony with time. As such, this experiment depicts the aspects determination of the activities of phosphatase and arylsulphatase in the soil (Mukerji et al. 2006: 21). The assay of the phosphatase and arylsulphatase activities in the soils is linked with the organic contents of carbon. These activities vary and are higher in the phosphatase. This aspect is also linked with the enzyme activities that increase with the organic matter.

Figures 2 and 3, which concern the pH and the amount of the inorganic P, the PO_4^{3-} . The results show a significant difference based on the enzyme activity and the concentration of the pH and the PO_4^{3-} in the phosphatase as well as the arylsulphatase. In Figure 4, the phosphatase activity against the colony formation unity shows that these two aspects increase with time. The increase in these two aspects is attributed to the protein concentration.

In Figure 5, there are no significant variations in the PO_4^{3-} during that period. In this experiment, the Tryptone Soya Broth and Cooked Meat Media are seen to achieve the highest measurements. As such, the level of the protein in these media was the responsible aspect. Nevertheless, the Tryptone Soya Broth retained the content of the PO_4^{3-} . Tryptone Soya Broth is also significant in the aerobic and anaerobic cultivation.

Under the aerobic cultivation, this medium could be used in the cultivation of the facultative anaerobes and the aerobes, including some of the fungi. For the anaerobic cultivation, it is essential in the cultivation of the obligatory anaerobes, including the Clostridium spp. In Figure 6, the media present a similar pH with the Luria Bertani Broth having the peak measurement because of the concentration of the phosphates. The component of the LB broth is also attributed to the content of the *Escherichia coli*. Evaluations *Escherichia coli* physiology has been completed with societies in consistent state development. One of the foremost points of interest of this is the reproducibility of the bacteria's physiological condition (Halaz et al. 2006: 16). During the consistent state development in given media, given strains will dependably accomplish the same state that is reached after a slack period and at variable low cell densities, such that the amount of supplements expelled from the medium is unimportant and the amassing of discharged compounds does not influence the development. Amid the relentless state development, by definition, the accompanying criteria are significant (Waldrop et al. 2004:15). First, all the characteristic cell parameters have to stay consistent. Measured as populace midpoints, these incorporate the mean volumes, thickness, and the macromolecular structures and compositions of the cells.

The microorganisms that facilitate the growth and the biological transformation of the Organic P originate from the soil enrichment. The soil enrichment encompasses the ecosystem functioning and the composition and transformations of the microorganisms and the vegetation (Kirchman 2008:35). Soil microorganisms are distinct connections between shifts in the piece of prevailing vegetation and key moves in biological system working. Soil dynamic microbial groups assume a focal part in subterranean procedures, particularly in intervening soil natural matter disintegration and supplement cycling in biological communities. Enhanced information on the associations between site elements and soil microbial groups in encouraging soil natural matter disintegration and carbon sequestration is progressively perceived as key to comprehension inputs of physical biological system procedures to worldwide environmental change (In Situ Microbial Community 2008: 21). Nevertheless, owing to the unpredictability of subterranean procedures and specialized troubles to tentatively control soil microbial aspects or structures and exercises, elemental gaps stay in the present comprehension on how soil microbial groups are controlled by the complex collaborations of abiotic and biotic site elements and how the basic and structural shifts in the soil microbial groups are connected to modifications of their working, for example, in intervening soil natural carbon.

While headway in biotechnology has taken into account the advancement of systems for auxiliary examination of soil microbial groups, for instance, the portrayal of microbial useful segments with phospholipids unsaturated fats (PLFA) investigation, determination of the linkage between the microbial structure capacity still represent a basic issue (Hurst et al. 2007:30). An absence of viable specialized arrangement in relating microbial group structure to working in change and turnover in regular biological communities has been an impediment for looking for understanding on the criticisms of changes in subterranean procedures to environment progression and working because of atmosphere and area spread changes.

Lactose

The method for the lactose digestion system shifts between the distinctive types of lactic acid microscopic organisms. All together for the microbes to use lactose as a vitality source they must have the capacity to ingest the sugar and transport it to the piece of the cell, which delivers lactase. Once inside the microscopic organisms, the lactose is digested or broken down into its composite components by the enzymes and chemicals. The β -galactose and the glucose are metabolized through diverse ways to deliver vitality (Hurst et al. 2007: 52). The distinctive metabolic procedures create various vivacious atoms and molecules, as ATP and various different particles, which can incorporate; ethanol, carbon dioxide, and lactate.

The *Lactobacillus rhamnosus*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, and *Lactobacillus bulgaricus* utilize similar intracellular transport systems to take up the lactose. However, they deliver diverse molecules amid its digestion system to create vita (Okeke et al. 1996:18) Conversely *Streptococcus thermophilus* and *Lactobacillus casei* utilize an alternate technique to move the lactose into the right piece of the cell, they effectively transport the sugars as the lactose phosphate. These microscopic organisms utilize an alternate metabolic

system to separate the sugar and produce vitality; nevertheless, this delivers the similar metabolic products like that utilized by alternate *Lactobacillus* species (Hodgson et al. 2012: 98).

Luria Bertani Broth

Luria Bertani Broth is distinctive with twofold measure of sodium chloride for development and upkeep of the recombinant strains of the *Escherichia coli*. This media is nutritiously rich for the development of unadulterated societies of the recombinant strains. The strains got from *Escherichia coli* (K12) are deemed efficient in Vitamin B blend that are further changed by particular transformation to make auxotrophic strains, which are in this manner not able to develop on nutritiously insufficient media. The casein enzymic hydrolysate gives peptones and peptides while the Vitamin B complex is given by the yeast extracts. Sodium chloride gives sodium particles in form of ions for layer transport and keeps up the osmotic balance of the medium (Strauss et al. 2002: 22).

Second, the outward parameters increase γ with definitely similar multiplying time. These incorporate the optical densities of the cultures, the quantity of cells in each milliliter, the measure of protein in each milliliter, the measure of the RNA in each milliliter, and the measure of the DNA in each milliliter (Halasz et al. 2007:20). Last, the temperature, the pH, and the composition of the medium all stay consistent within the various cells' location limits. The cultures in unfaltering state display adjusted exponential development. As such, the variations in the concentrations of this media are elemental because they facilitate the biogeochemical transformations of the Organic P.

Nutrient Broth

Nutrient broth contains peptones (separated proteins). It is advantageous, as most microbes and different microorganisms can develop in this kind of medium, even those with diverse aero tolerance or oxygen requirements. Unlike the animals, these microorganisms do not all oblige oxygen. Some are harmed by oxygen while others van either use it or not. Nutrient broth, particularly fluid permits the microorganisms to develop at different oxygen levels that diminish as the profundity of the broth increases (Zak et al. 1994:18). In addition to the oxygen necessities, different components can influence microbial development designs in fluid. The motile microorganisms, those with flagella, have the ability to swim. Their development will make a uniform shadiness or turbidity in the nutrient broth (Halasz 2007: 28). Non-motile ones with the waxy cell walls have a tendency to buoy at the broth surface, creating a surface layer called the pellicle. For this reason, the microorganisms prefer the nutrient broth, which consists of a variety of nutrients, including the vitamins, the proteins, and the phosphates. In addition, nutrient broth contains levels of glucose, which is easier to breakdown than the lactose.

Tryptone Soya Broth

This medium is nutritious and is utilized for development of a wide mixture of organisms. The mix of pancreatic condensation of papaic and casein overview of soya makes this medium nutritious by giving the amino acids as well as the long-chain peptides for the development of the microorganisms. Bibasic and dextrose potassium phosphate act as starch sources and the cradle, individually in the medium. The sodium chloride elements keep up the osmotic parity of the medium (Griffiths et al. 2008:18).

Cooked Meat Medium

Cooked Meat Medium has the beef heart, muscle protein that gives amino acids and different supplements. The beef heart additionally contains glutathione, which is a diminishing substance that allows the development of the obligate anaerobes. Different sulphhydryl groups that grant decreasing impact, are more accessible in the denatured proteins and consequently cooked meat is included the medium (Griffiths et al. 2008: 27). The inclusion of the dextrose permits fast development of the anaerobic microscopic organisms in a short period and prompts the rapid identification of the significant anaerobes. Development in this medium is demonstrated by the turbidity or air pocket arrangement by some of the organisms. Darkening and breaking down of the meat particles show proteolysis.

The beef heart, the peptones and dextrose give nutritious prerequisites required by most microbes. The dextrose, the yeast concentrate, vitamin K and hemin are added to upgrade the development of anaerobic microorganisms. The muscle proteins in the tissue granules of the heart add the amino acids and different supplements (Dunfield et

al. 2003 :25). The iron filings and the muscle tissues supply lessening substances, which allow the development of strict anaerobes and other aerobes. It is imagined that the particles of the meat act as lessening and detoxifying substances, in this way impairing unsafe by items that may be created by the recreating or replicating organisms. Since decreasing substances are more accessible in the denatured proteins, the particles or meat are cooked before the utilization in the medium (Budowle 2011: 34). Cooked Meat Medium is valuable as an enhancement broth for developing life forms from little inoculums. Moreover, specialists have found that Cooked Meat Medium is elemental in the preservation of the feasibility of creatures over a drawn out stretch of time and is valuable in keeping up anaerobic stock life forms of the microorganisms.

After its general development invigorating impact, is that the results of development do not quickly obliterate the different structures and of the media in utilization, it is to the used meat. It is a medium that one can re-isolate microscopic organisms, which have vanished or have turn out to be congested in other media. Exactly what the careful conditions are which support this beneficial interaction is difficult to portray (Balser et al. 2005: 22). The particles of meat act undoubtedly as cushions to the various extremes of response, particularly retaining undue measures of the acids delivered in the cultures. The medium gives great development from negligible inocula and is in this way valuable in the essential society of clinical examples containing pathogens. It is an essential medium for the capacity of strains of microscopic organisms: enteric microbes, streptococci and staphylococci can be kept up over long stretches of time in fixed compartments. The medium is especially suitable for the development, separation and capacity of the clostridial species and can show the proteolytic and the saccharolytic movement of the species in activity (Akob 2008: 46). The high buffering limit of the heart tissues empowers spores to adapt and survive inconclusively in the medium.

Declarations

Ethics approval: This study was approved by the Research Committee in the UK.

Consent for publication: Not applicable.

Availability of data and materials: The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Competing interests: The author declare that they have no competing interests.

Funding: None.

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