Since attempts to raise endemic Hawaiian spp. on standard banana or cornmeal media were failures, a new medium was devised, using several dried breakfast cereals of the high-protein, high vitamin and mineral types. Other D. spp. do extremely well on it. The basic recipe is as follows:

1000 ml distilled water
13.5 to 14.5 g Bacto agar, fine (amount varies with climate)
50.0 g dried Brewers yeast
1 jar (4.75 oz) Gerber's Strained Banana Baby food
10.0 g Kellogg's Special K cereal
5.0 g Kellogg's Concentrate cereal
15.0 g Gerber's High-Protein cereal
15.0 g Kretschmer's Wheat Germ

In addition 5 ml of ETOH (95%) was used to wet the dry yeast, and 5 ml of propionic acid was used for mold inhibition.

To secure good pupation and eclosion, mature larvae were transferred to vials half-filled with lightly moistened sand; larvae burrow down (some spp. to 4.0 inches) to pupate. At eclosion adults climb upward through the sand using the ptilinum to force a trail. This technique works best for those spp. whose larvae crawl up into the cotton plug when mature.

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