

Gvosdev, V. A., and V. T. Kakpakov.
Kurchatov's Institute of Atomic Energy,
Moscow, U.S.S.R. The medium for cell
culture of *Drosophila melanogaster* in
vitro.

We have obtained growth of diploid embry-
onic cells of *Drosophila melanogaster*
during 40 and more days in the C-12 medium
of the following composition:

Constituents	Amount mg/100 ml	Constituents	Amount mg/100 ml
NaH ₂ PO ₄ ·2H ₂ O	50	Vitamin B ₁₂	0.002
NaHCO ₃	35	Vitamin A	0.002
KCl	256	Thiamine	0.002
CaCl ₂	50	Riboflavin	0.002
MgCl ₂	250	Ca-pantothenate	0.002
NaCl	290	Pyridoxine	0.002
Sucrose	500	p-aminobenzoic acid	0.002
Glucose	500	Folic acid	0.002
Malic acid	67	Biotin	0.002
Succinic acid	6	Inositol	0.002
Sodium acetate	2.5	Cholinchloride	0.002
Lactalbumin hydrolisate	1750	Tris (hydroxymethyl- aminomethane)	300
Ascorbic acid	10	Phenol red	1
Niacinamide	0.01	Streptomycin sulfate	100 units/ml
l-tryptophane	10	Penicillin sodium	100 units/ml
l-cysteine	2.5		
Glutathione	0.5		
Nicotinamideadenine- dinucleotide	0.5	pH adjusted to 7.2 with 1 N KOH	
Yeast extract	150	Osmotic pressure: Δ = 0. 70°C	

The medium was supplemented with 15 per cent of bovine foetal serum. Results of
observation on cell growth in this medium are communicated in the research note (43:142)

Gonzalez, F. W. and S. Abrahamson. Univer-
sity of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.
Acti-dione, a yeast inhibitor facilitating
egg counts.

Egg counts in dominant lethal studies
become very laborious if a thick lawn of
yeast present on the food surface obscures
the eggs. D. R. Parker eliminates this
problem by inhibiting yeast growth with
mycostatin. Since our strain of yeast

appears to be resistant to mycostatin, we tried several other yeast inhibitors. Following the
suggestion of Professor Weisblum of Pharmacology, we found a 1 mg/ml solution of Acti-dione
(cyclo-heximide) in water to be both a very effective yeast inhibitor and non-toxic to the
developing eggs.

We allow females to lay eggs on petri dishes containing corn meal, molasses, agar,
and dried brewers yeast. No living yeast is included in the food, but usually is carried
to the media by flies. After 12 hours the females are transferred to fresh food units and the
eggs laid on the food are counted. Immediately afterwards, the food surface is lightly
sprayed with the Acti-dione solution. Thirty hours after the first count is performed,
the unhatched eggs can be counted without difficulty.

Acti-dione is available from the Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan.