Paramecium culture medium comprises a sterile chemically defined mineral salts solution and a vial of rice grains. Keep any unused medium in the refrigerator at 6-8°C for up to 2 weeks after opening in order to minimize bacterial/fungal contamination which may occur during sub-culturing.

CULTURE MEDIUM

Pour 20 - 25mL of the Paramecium culture medium into a very clean glass Petri dish, approximately 100mm in diameter. Add 5 - 10 grains of rice. Using a Pasteur pipette, add 3 - 4mL of your Paramecium culture to the culture medium, replace the lid of the Petri dish, and leave undisturbed in a dark cupboard at 20 - 25°C for a few weeks. The Paramecium will grow steadily in this solution and should be sub-cultured every four weeks to fresh culture medium.

Note: Other organisms such as chilomonas, which are considerably smaller than the paramecium may also grow in the solution, but should not be confused with the paramecium because of the significant size difference.