

Cryogenic Backup and Recovery of Bacterial Cultures

February 1, 2021

- 1.) Aseptically fill cryotubes with 1mL sterile 50% water/glycerol mixture
- 2.) Using a sterile loop, pick up a generous loopful of culture and insert into tube.
Twirl loop if necessary to dislodge the culture. Close tube and place in ice.
Sterilize between loopfuls.
- 3.) Make 4-5 tubes per culture.
- 4.) Vortex each tube for 5-10 seconds
- 5.) Store tubes in cryoboxes in -80 freezer. Be sure to make a note of box assignment and tube position within the box (e.g. Xanthomonas box 1, slots 1-5)
- 6.) To recover culture from storage, pull a tube from storage and thaw on ice.
- 7.) Once thawed, use a sterile loop to remove a loopful of liquid and streak on a plate of medium appropriate for the culture.
- 8.) Return tube to ice. When finished, return all tubes to their appropriate locations in the -80 freezer.