7-DISC DISPENSER

7-POSITION BIO-RAD ANTIBIOTIC DISC DISPENSER

1. APPLICATION
The 7-disc dispenser is used to dispense Bio-Rad antibiotic discs onto round 90 mm or 100 mm Petri dishes.

2. PRESENTATION
Box containing the following elements
- 1 x 7-position antibiotic disc dispenser
- 1 x removable adapter ring for 90 mm Petri dishes (fitted onto the dispenser)
- 7 x removable piston guides/stops (fitted onto the dispenser)
- 1 x desiccant capsule
- 1 x sheet of adhesive labels with abbreviations used to identify Bio-Rad antibiotic discs.

3. STORAGE
When not in use (no antibiotic disc cartridge), store the dispenser and desiccant at ambient temperature in a dry place.
When in use (antibiotic disc cartridges loaded), store the dispenser in its box at +2 to +8°C with an active desiccant capsule.

4. DESICCANT
The desiccant is active as long as its colour remains orange. (Cf. figure 1)
When the desiccant’s colour fades to pale yellow or white, it may possibly be regenerated by heating to 50°C in an oven. The product inside the capsule must regain its orange colour.
The time required for product regeneration at 50°C varies from 1 to 3 days according to the desiccant’s water saturation.
The number of possible regeneration cycles varies with the hygrometry of the usage environment.
Discard the capsule when the orange colour can no longer be restored.

5. START-UP
- Remove the desiccant’s membrane seal and place the capsule at the bottom of the box, cardboard side up;
- Insert the Bio-Rad antibiotic disc cartridges into the cells;
- Place the adhesive labels, corresponding to the antibiotic, at the locations provided for this purpose;
- Move the piston guides/stops at the base of the dispenser in the stop position to block any unused cartridge position;
- For distribution onto 100 mm diameter Petri dishes, remove the adapter ring at the base of the dispenser by gripping it between thumb and index finger at the narrowest part of the dispenser and pressing gently to release the ring.

6. USE
- Allow the dispenser box to warm up to ambient temperature;
- Remove the dispenser from its box;
- Position the dispenser on the Petri dish;
- Press the handle straight down firmly, then release;
- After use, return the dispenser to its box with the desiccant capsule, then store at +2 to +8°C;
- Regularly check the colour of the desiccant (cf. figure 1). Total discolouration indicates that the capsule is inactive and must be replaced.

7. DECONTAMINATION
- Remove all antibiotic disc cartridges from the dispenser;
- Clean the base of the dispenser with a cloth soaked in a decontamination solution (quaternary ammonium compound, 5% bleach, 70° alcohol);
- Dry;
- Return the cartridges to their positions;
- Store the dispenser, in its closed box with a desiccant capsule, at between +2 and +8°C.
8. TROUBLESHOOTING

In the event of problems with the distribution mechanism, the dispenser may be dismantled in the following manner (cf. figure 2):

- Remove all loaded antibiotic disc cartridges;
- Remove the adapter ring;
- Turn the dispenser over and remove the retaining screws while holding the system depressed in its dispensing position;
- Release the system, then remove the different parts in the order shown on the diagram;
- Identify and correct the cause of the malfunction if possible;
- Re-assemble the different parts in the reverse order to that shown on the diagram;
- Insert and tighten the retaining screws;
- Reposition the adapter ring;
- Load the antibiotic disc cartridges into the dispenser and perform a dispensing test.

If the dispenser still fails to work correctly, contact your local Bio-Rad helpdesk.

Figure 1: Desiccant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desiccant efficiency</th>
<th>Desiccant colours</th>
<th>Time required for regeneration at 50°C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum activity</td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate activity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Approximately 1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inactive</td>
<td></td>
<td>Approximately 3 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 2: Assembling - Dismantling the dispenser

- Lid
- Springs
- Mechanism
- Base
- Retaining screws
- Adapter ring
- Piston guide/stop (x7)