

Marine Red Seaweeds – 20°C / 8 weeks

Note: The culturing conditions below are not necessarily the optimal growth conditions for each strain, as much variation is found between strains, and cultures are not always kept in optimal growth conditions at CCAP for practical reasons. There may be more info in the individual strain data on the website.

On receipt of culture: cultures should be subcultured into fresh sterile medium as described below, ideally within a few days of receipt. If the culture vessel is very full on receipt and subculturing cannot be done immediately, we advise transferring half of the culture to a sterile container to provide air space.

ACDP Hazard Gp: 1 - Non pathogenic / non hazardous. Unlikely to cause human disease.

Culture Medium: Modified Provasoli medium – full or half strength (see individual strain data on the CCAP website)

Lighting: Mix of cool and warm white fluorescent lighting; low or shaded lighting – red seaweeds do not like bright lighting.

Light Cycle: 12h light : 12h dark (for faster growth try 16h:8h)

Temperature: 20 degrees C

Sub Interval: 8 weeks (may vary depending on environment). Note these strains tend to be slow growing.

Culture Vessel: Glass flasks

Culture Method:

Subculture by splitting the culture, using sterile tweezers if necessary or a pipette to agitate and separate the culture, and add to fresh sterile medium. Take up approximately a third of the available material to transfer. If there is little material transfer all.

See also our short video showing some of the techniques we use to subculture filamentous red seaweeds: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwNVZryWCFI>

Use strict aseptic techniques throughout and if possible carry out all subculturing within a laminar flow cabinet (particularly for axenic strains).