

Roscoff Culture Collection	Information before ordering strains from the RCC	
----------------------------------	---	---

Before ordering strains, please ensure that your laboratory has suitable equipment and conditions for the reception and maintenance of the cultures.

Every culture in the RCC catalogue has a detailed form on our website (<http://www.sb-roscoff.fr/Phyto/RCC>), where you will find a range of information concerning culture conditions for the strain in question (temperature, medium, light intensity, etc.).

Before receiving live cultures :

Prepare media (not supplied by the RCC) :

The media used by the RCC is most often prepared from seawater collected off Roscoff (salinity ca. 33‰), stored for at least two months in darkness, then filtered on 0.22µM filters (Millipore filter GSWPO9000 plus Millipore prefilter AP1507500) and autoclaved.

If your laboratory does not have access to natural seawater, you can try using artificial seawater made from mixtures of salts (consult the "culture media" section on our website). Please note that we cannot guarantee culture growth in artificial seawater based media (except for some cyanobacteria for which it is recommended to use Red Sea Salt artificial seawater).

Sterile (autoclaved and/or 0.22µM filtered) nutrient and trace metal stocks must be added to the sterile seawater under a laminar flow hood. You should not autoclave vitamins (sterilization by 0.22µM filtration and storage at -20°C).

Adjust light intensity :

All RCC strains are exposed to a 12H/12H day/night light cycle. We use "daylight" neon tubes (Tabur-Neons Sylvania Daylight F58W/54/765 ref : 0001440+ starter ref :00007698476). Light intensity for culture maintenance rarely exceeds 100 µEinstein.m⁻².s⁻¹.

Some of our cultures (notably certain cyanobacteria) are protected by a blue filter « Moonlight Blue 183 » (Minet Eclairages Scéniques).

Culture flasks :

RCC strains are routinely maintained in single-use sterile polystyrene flasks with a ventilated filter cap (Sarstedt ref 831810.002 or Nunc ref 136196) or single-use sterile polystyrene tubes (CML ref TCU12PS25). Our strains generally also grow well in Erlenmeyers or other glass flasks.

Reception of live cultures :

After receiving your order, RCC staff will contact you in order to arrange a suitable delivery date. We usually use DHL courier service. Upon pick-up of the package, we will send you the

DHL tracking number by e-mail. Packages should be delivered within one to three days (depending on location). Upon delivery, **cultures should never be stored in a cold room or freezer**. Please warn your post-room of the imminent arrival of the package - they should store it at room temperature and inform you immediately of the arrival of the package.

After opening the package, transfer the flasks into a culture room or culture cabinet with the appropriate temperature and light conditions. Cultures are subjected to stress during transport and we therefore recommend that you wait for one to two days before transferring cultures into fresh medium. Most of our strains must be transferred every 2-3 weeks with 1/10 to 1/50 dilution in new medium.

To avoid any risk of contamination of the natural environment, all culture residues must be sterilized (by autoclaving or by treatment with bleach) before being discarded.

If you need any further advice, please contact us at rcc@sb-roscoff.fr