

OSTRACODTOXKIT F Test procedure



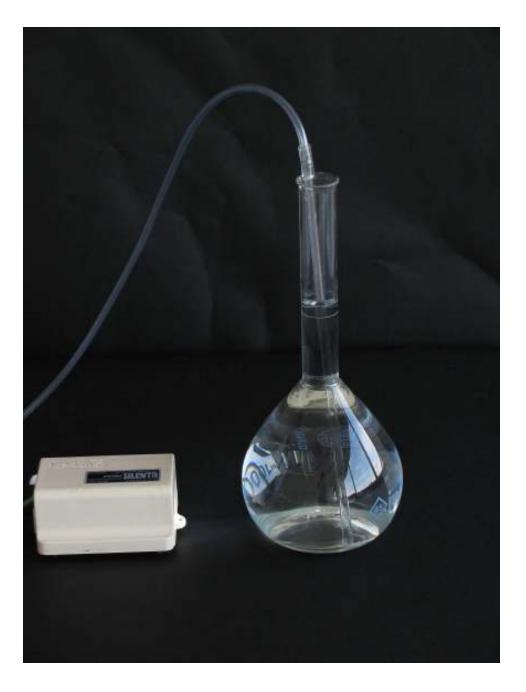
PREPARATION OF STANDARD FRESHWATER

 VOLUMETRIC FLASK (1 liter)
 VIALS WITH SOLUTIONS OF CONCENTRATED SALTS
 DISTILLED (or deionized) WATER



POUR THE 5 VIALS WITH CONCENTRATED SALT SOLUTIONS IN <u>+</u> 800 ML DISTILLED WATER, IN THE 1 LITER VOLUMETRIC FLASK

2



- FILL THE FLASK TO THE 1 LITER MARK

3

- AERATE FOR AT LEAST 15 MINUTES



HATCHING OF OSTRACOD CYSTS

4

POUR THE CONTENTS OF ONE VIAL WITH CYSTS IN THE PETRI DISH



TO ENSURE THE TRANSFER OF ALL THE CYSTS, THE VIAL SHOULD BE RINSED TWICE WITH 1 ML STANDARD FRESHWATER



INCUBATION OF THE CYSTS

INCUBATE THE PETRI DISH FOR 48 HOURS AT 25 °C UNDER CONTINOUS ILLUMINATION OF MIN. 3000 - 4000 LUX



PRE-FEEDING OF THE TEST ORGANISMS

TAKE ONE VIAL WITH SPIRULINA POWDER AND FILL IT WITH STANDARD FRESHWATER



- SHAKE THE VIAL WITH THE SPIRULINA SUSPENSION

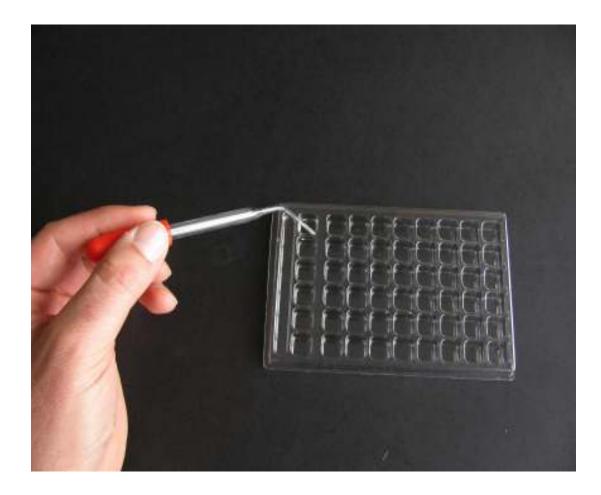
- POUR THE CONTENTS IN THE PETRI DISH CONTAINING THE HATCHED OSTRACODS AND SWIRL THE PETRI DISH GENTLY

- ALLOW THE OSTRACODS TO PRE- FEED FOR 4 HOURS

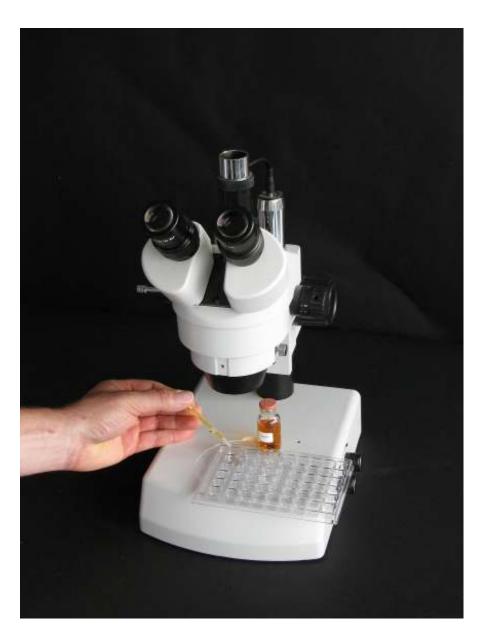


LENGTH MEASUREMENT OF FRESHLY HATCHED OSTRACODS

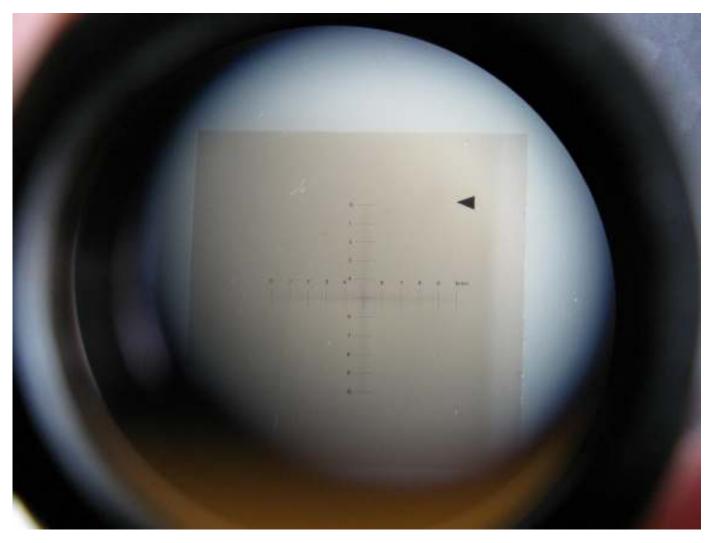
PICK UP 10 OSTRACODS FROM THE HATCHING PETRI DISH WITH A GLASS MICROPIPETTE



TRANSFER THE OSTRACODS INTO ONE CUP OF THE MULTIWELL FOR "LENGTH MEASUREMENTS"



ADD ONE DROP OF LUGOL FIXATIVE TO THE CUP CONTAINING THE OSTRACODS AND WAIT UNTIL THE ORGANISMS ARE COMPLETELY IMMOBILE



PUT THE MICROMETER SLIP ON THE GLASS STAGE OF THE DISSECTION MICROSCOPE, IN THE CENTRE OF THE VISUAL FIELD



PUT THE MULTIWELL FOR LENGTH MEASUREMENTS ON THE STAGE OF THE DISSECTION MICROSCOPE, AND MEASURE THE LENGTH OF THE OSTRACODS

N.B : the smallest subdivisions of the micrometer slip are 50 μm

FRESHLY HATCHED OSTRACODS HAVE A LENGTH OF ABOUT 200 μm



SCORE THE LENGTH OF THE OSTRACODS ON THE "RESULTS SHEET" IN COLUMN "DAY 0"



PREPARATION OF THE ALGAL FOOD SUSPENSION

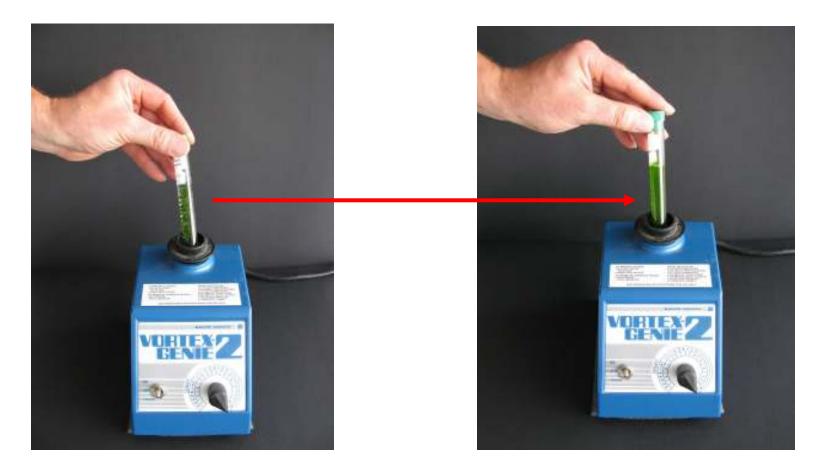
TAKE ONE TUBE WITH ALGAL BEADS AND POUR OUT THE STORAGE MEDIUM TAKING CARE NOT TO LOSE ANY BEAD DURING THE OPERATION





DE-IMMOBILISATION OF THE ALGAE

ADD 7 ML MATRIX DISSOLVING MEDIUM TO THE TUBE WITH ALGAL BEADS AND CLOSE THE TUBE WITH THE CAP



SHAKE THE TUBE ON A VORTEX UNTIL THE MATRIX IN WHICH THE ALGAE ARE IMMOBILISED IS TOTALLY DISSOLVED AND THE ALGAE ARE SET FREE





CENTRIFUGE THE TUBE FOR 10 MINUTES AT 3000 RPM IN A CONVENTIONAL LAB CENTRIFUGE

CAREFULLY POUR OUT THE SUPERNATANT FROM THE TUBE





ADD 10 ML DISTILLED WATER TO THE TUBE WITH THE ALGAL PELLET CAP AND SHAKE THE TUBE TO RESUSPEND THE ALGAE





CENTRIFUGE THE TUBE AGAIN AT 3000 RPM FOR 10 MINUTES AND POUR OUT THE SUPERNATANT





- POUR THE CONCENTRATED ALGAL SUSPENSION INTO A 25 mL VOLUMETRIC FLASK

21

- ADD STANDARD FRESHWATER TO THE 25 mL MARK
- CAP THE FLASK AND SHAKE TO OBTAIN A HOMOGENOUS ALGAL SUSPENSION



ADDITION OF SEDIMENT, ALGAL FOOD AND OSTRACODS TO THE TEST PLATES

PUT 2 ML STANDARD FRESHWATER INTO EACH WELL OF <u>TWO</u> TEST PLATES (multiwell for reference sediment and multiwell for test sediment)





TEST PLATE FOR REFERENCE SEDIMENT

 - FILL THE SPOON WITH REFERENCE SEDIMENT AND STRIKE OFF THE EXCESS SEDIMENT WITH THE PLASTIC SPATULA (the filled spoon then contains 500 μl sediment)
 - PUT 2 SPOONS (= 1000 μl) REFERENCE SEDIMENT INTO EACH WELL OF THE TEST PLATE





TEST PLATE WITH TEST SEDIMENT

- FILL THE SPOON WITH TEST SEDIMENT AND STRIKE OFF THE EXCESS SEDIMENT
- WITH THE PLASTIC SPATULA (the filled spoon then contains 500 µl sediment)
- PUT 2 SPOONS (= 1000 μ I) OF TEST SEDIMENT INTO EACH WELL OF THE TEST PLATE (use the tip of the spatula to perform the transfer)





- POUR THE ALGAL FOOD SUSPENSION FROM THE 25 ML FLASK INTO A BEAKER
- SHAKE THE BEAKER TO DISTRIBUTE THE ALGAE EVENLY
- PIPET 2 ML ALGAL SUSPENSION INTO EACH WELL OF THE TWO TEST PLATES



FILL THE LID OF THE HATCHING PETRI DISH WITH 10 ML STANDARD FRESHWATER



TRANSFER WITH THE GLASS MICROPIPETTE A NUMBER OF OSTRACOD NEONATES FROM THE HATCHING PETRI DISH INTO THE LID OF THIS DISH





TRANSFER 10 OSTRACODS FROM THE PETRI DISH LID INTO EACH WELL

OF THE TWO TEST PLATES





INCUBATION OF THE TEST PLATES

29

- COVER THE TWO TEST PLATES WITH A SHEET OF PARAFILM AND PUT THE LID ON TOP
- INCUBATE THE TEST PLATES AT 25 °C, IN DARKNESS, FOR 6 DAYS





TEST SCORING - 1. TRANSFER OF THE OSTRACODS INTO A PETRI DISH

WITH THE AID OF THE "LARGE MOUTH" MICROPIPET, SUCK UP PART OF THE SEDIMENT SUSPENSION FROM ONE CUP OF THE TEST PLATE AND TRANSFER IT INTO THE MICROSIEVE



- GENTLY RINSE THE CONTENTS OF THE MICROSIEVE WITH TAPWATER
- TO WASH OUT THE FINE SEDIMENT
- PROCEED FURTHER WITH THE STEPWISE TRANSFER OF THE SEDIMENT SUSPENSION TO THE MICROSIEVE AND RINSE EACH TIME THE CONTENTS OF THE MICROSIEVE



- ADD A FEW ML STANDARD FRESHWATER TO THE CUP

- MIX THE WATER WITH THE REMAINING SEDIMENT AND TRANSFER IT TO THE MICROSIEVE FOR RINSING.
- REPEAT THIS OPERATION UNTIL ALL
 THE SEDIMENT AND OSTRACODS HAVE BEEN
 TRANSFERRED INTO THE MICROSIEVE





- TURN THE MICROSIEVE UPSIDE DOWN AND WASH THE CONTENTS INTO A PETRI DISH, WITH THE AID OF A WASH BOTTLE CONTAINING TAPWATER
- REPEAT THE SEDIMENT TRANSFER AND RINSING OPERATIONS FOR ALL THE CUPS OF THE TWO TEST PLATES





TEST SCORING – 2. MORTALITY SCORING

PICK UP ALL THE LIVE OSTRACODS FROM THE PETRI DISH WITH A GLASS MICROPIPETTE AND TRANSFER THEM INTO ONE CUP OF THE "LENGTH MEASUREMENTS" MULTIWELL

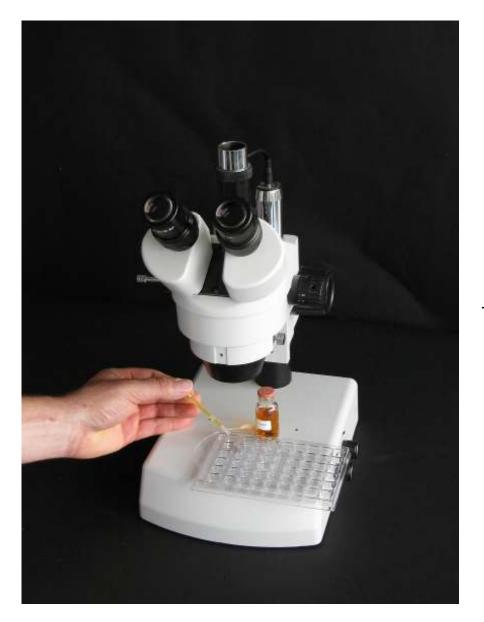


- COUNT THE NUMBER OF LIVE OSTRACODS IN THE CUP

SUBSTRACT THIS NUMBER FROM 10 (i.e. from the original number of ostracods put in the cup)
SCORE THE OUTCOME (i.e. the number of dead ostracods) ON THE RESULTS SHEET

- REPEAT THIS OPERATION FOR ALL THE CUPS OF THE TWO TEST PLATES

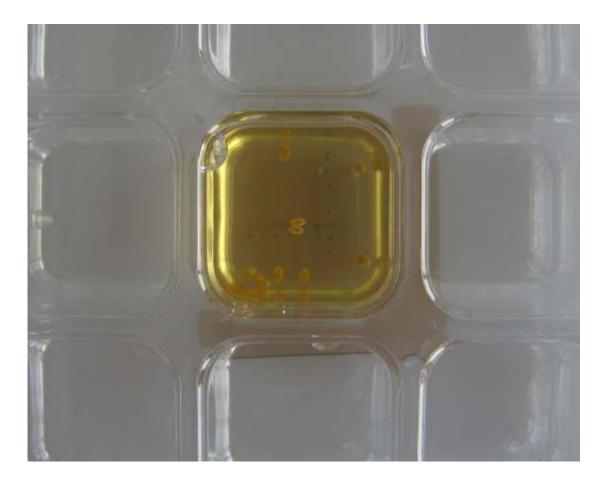
- CALCULATE AND SCORE THE MEAN % OSTRACOD MORTALITY FOR ALL THE CUPS



TEST SCORING – <u>3. LENGTH MEASUREMENT</u>

NB : only to be performed if the percentage mortality is < 30%

- ADD ONE DROP OF LUGOL FIXATIVE TO EACH CUP OF THE LENGTH MEASUREMENTS MULTIWELL WHICH CONTAIN THE LIVE OSTRACODS FROM THE TWO TEST PLATES



- WAIT UNTIL THE OSTRACODS ARE IMMOBILE
- MEASURE THE LENGTH OF EACH OSTRACOD FOLLOWING THE PROCEDURE INDICATED IN STEPS 13 & 14
- SCORE THE RESULTS IN THE CORRESPONDING "LENGTH" BOXES OF THE RESULTS SHEET

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 PERFORM THE DATA TREATMENT OF THE RESULTS WITH AN APPROPRIATE
 PROGRAMME