



## USE PROTOCOL FOR R & F® *YERSINIA PESTIS* CHROMOGENIC PLATING MEDIUM

- 1 Prepare the R & F® *Yersinia pestis* Chromogenic Plating Medium according to the instructions provided on the packaging labels. After the plates have been poured, they should be stored in the dark for 24 to 48 hours at room temperature or put under a laminated flow hood with the cover removed to 20 to 30 minutes to dry the surface of the agar. After surface drying, the plates can be placed in Petri plate sleeves and stored at 2-8°C for up to 14 days.
- 2 Inoculate the plates using spread-plating or streaking for isolation, as preferred. Allow the inoculum to completely soak into the agar before inversion and incubation.
- 3 Incubate the plates inverted at 26-30°C and observe the plates after 48-72 hours. If no blue-black colonies appear after 48 hours, incubate for another 24 hours.
- 4 *Yersinia pestis* colonies appear blue-black raised; 0.5 to 2.0 mm in diameter with or without a clear ring and precipitate. Other colony types appearing on this plating medium that are **not** presumptive *Yersinia pestis* strains are blue-green with and without a precipitate, green with and without a precipitate, yellow-green with and without a precipitate, yellow with and without a precipitate, clear and white.
- 5 Use standard methods for colony confirmation.