NCIMB

NCIMB Products and Services for **Research and Academia**

NCIMB has played a pivotal role in supporting academic research projects and microbiology education for decades.

Our reference strains are widely used in research projects, as well as for teaching, and deposits to our reference collection comply with the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes (ICNP).

We offer fast turn-around next generation sequencing and a range of specialist services to confirm the identification of working strains and protect against loss or strain drift.

Products and Services for **Research and Academia**

Our strains provide a trusted reference for identification and a valuable resource for research. For more information about our full range of products and services visit our website at www.ncimb.com

Microorganisms from all kinds of habitats

NCIMB Ltd is curator of the National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria - a reference collection of ACDP hazard group (biological safety level/containment level) 1 and 2 strains, isolated from a variety of environments and substances, including not only marine environments and food, but also freshwater, soil and more. For example, the collection includes gut bacteria. We can supply high molecular weight genomic DNA from many of our strains, and in addition to bacteria, the collection also includes plasmids, bacteriophages and some yeasts.

Reference strains, when you need them

Most of our strains are freeze-dried in sealed ampoules, and available for immediate dispatch to customers around the globe. Active cultures can be supplied if required.

Contact us by phone or email to enquire about strain availability. Alternatively, search our online catalogue, which also gives details, where available, on growth requirements, the colony morphology you can expect, metabolite production, the environment from which the strain was isolated, equivalency and references.

Depositing strains prior to publication

Our culture collection is continuously expanding as a result of new accessions from the international research community.

Depositing strains in the National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria is free of charge and complies with the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes (ICNP). We provide the required certification for publication purposes.

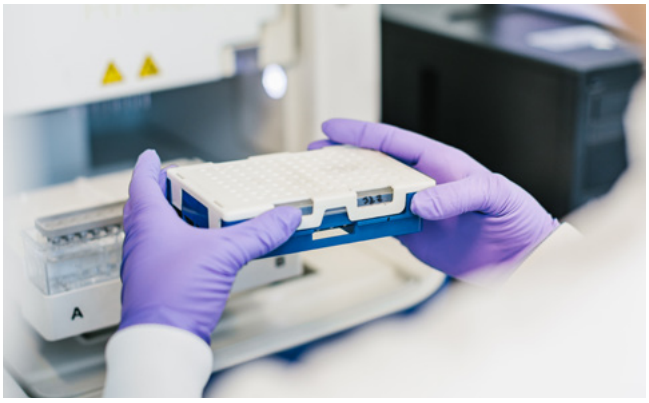
We welcome new accessions that meet our criteria – particularly type strains and organisms with new or novel properties, enzymes or metabolites. We can accept bacteria in ACDP hazard groups 1 and 2, plasmids contained in a bacterial host, and bacteriophages.

New accessions are accepted on the understanding that, subject to any health, safety, environmental or other legal or ethical constraints on their distribution, we will make them generally available for purchase.

We work closely with depositors to ensure new accessions to the collection comply with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol.

We’re here to protect your key strains and support your research and innovation projects

NCIMB operates a quality management system certified to ISO 9001, and all our services meet this standard. We can sequence, preserve and safely store your research strains.



Protect against genetic drift and contamination

When you receive, or isolate, a strain that is central to a research project, one of the first things that you should do is preserve multiple copies for long-term storage.

Many laboratories maintain their own stock cultures, but repeated sub-culturing increases the risk of contamination and strain drift.

NCIMB has decades of experience in preserving bacteria for long term storage. We offer a convenient freeze-drying (lyophilisation) service that helps our customers to maintain and preserve reliable cultures for their research projects.

Efficient disaster recovery

While most laboratories and research organisations have an automated off-site computer back-up system in place, many researchers do not apply the same approach to the microbial cultures that are key to their work.

However, human error, equipment or power failure, fire and natural disasters can all result in the loss of key strains and in-house culture collections may represent a lifetime’s work.

Loss of key strains can create a major set-back for research programmes, but off-site storage with NCIMB is a simple and straightforward approach to protecting your key strains should disaster strike.

We offer a full range of storage temperature options and our tailored solutions can range from storage of a few ampoules or cryovials to dedicated storage vessels. We can even distribute ampoules direct to partners in collaborative research programmes, to help ensure the number of subcultures (passages) is minimised.

Gain in depth knowledge of the strains you work with

We can use Sanger sequencing for identification of pure isolates and also offer a range of next generation sequencing services. Whole-genome sequencing is the ultimate in organism characterisation, and NCIMB offers whole genome sequencing of any strain in the collection with full genome annotation and additional bioinformatics analysis.

Sequencing of strains prior to storage can help you to monitor for strain drift, and so we also offer a next generation sequencing service for your research samples and strains. Using the most accurate technology platforms available, we can generate *de novo* genome assemblies to a high degree of continuity, simplifying downstream analysis of your strains.

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Reference strains

Our culture collection includes thousands of reference strains from ACDP (BSL) hazard groups 1 and 2. All our reference strains are issued with a certificate of authenticity, guaranteeing they are derived directly from seed stocks.

Quick dispatch

We can dispatch most of our strains within 24 hours of receiving your order, making sure you have the strains you require when you need them. Orders from UK customers are shipped using the Royal Mail next-day delivery service. Overseas orders may take a little longer to arrive.

NCIMB strain genomic DNA

Genomic DNA is available from many of our reference strains, saving you the time and expense of culturing bacteria and isolating DNA in your own laboratory.

NGS and bioinformatics

NCIMB offers next generation sequencing services with a rapid turn-around of samples received. We can undertake further analysis of sequence data if required.

NCIMB strain sequence data

Whole genome sequencing is the ultimate in organism characterisation and we can offer WGS of any strain in our collection with full gene annotation and additional bioinformatics analysis.

Freeze-dry your key strains

Repeated sub-culturing increases the risk of contamination and genetic drift. NCIMB offers a convenient freeze-drying service that can help you to maintain and preserve reliable cultures.

Depositing strains

Depositing strains in the National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria is free of charge. The collection is internationally recognised and depositing with us complies with the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes for naming and describing new species.

Back-up your key strains

Safe off-site storage of key strains with NCIMB is a simple way of ensuring that should disaster strike, all is not lost. Preservation and storage of strains used in research programmes also protects against strain drift.

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