



## USP <90> Compendial Quality & Function Testing of Fetal Bovine Serum

Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS), as a byproduct of the cattle industry, is one of the preferred animal sera for cell culture proliferation. With an abundance of protein, growth factors, enzymes and other chemical components, and a characteristically low or absent concentration of interfering antibodies, FBS is ideal for promoting cell health and growth.

Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories has established a broad array of physical, chemical, electrophoretic, and immunochemical techniques for determination of quality attributes of sera. With substantial experience and expertise in cell culture needs, we can support serum functionality testing, including collaborative design and execution of user-defined testing. Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories' vast capacity and extensive capabilities can provide clients with rigorous quality attribute testing and critical functionality testing to ensure fast-growing healthy cell lines, making animal sera a practical quality controlled means for cell culture enhancement.

In an effort to provide guidance and standards for use, the European Pharmacopeia (EP) and US Pharmacopeia (USP) have released general Quality Attributes and Functionality Tests for FBS. The Quality Attributes Tests provide standards to ensure consistency in protein content, hemoglobin level, pH, osmolality, IgG, species identification, and electrophoretic profile. The Functionality Testing outlined by the compendia can be performed with specified cell lines, comparing cell growth in test sera supplemented media versus reference sera supplemented media. However, in many cases, clients will favor establishment of their own user-defined functionality assays to ensure that test sera supports appropriate growth of their own cell line.



### Why Choose Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories?

- We qualify reagents in cell culture and cell banking activities before the use of the reagents to ensure high quality results, saving time and money for clients.
- With extensive expertise and capacity, we provide clients the full range of testing at one location, meeting all media components needs.
- We are the only laboratory offering full USP <90> testing with recommended cell lines, as well as custom functional testing.

### Testing Capabilities/Methods

Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories provides a full range of testing to meet all media component needs, including:

- 9 CFR (bovine and porcine)
- *In vitro* screening
- Mycoplasma and Sterility Testing
- Chemistry



Quality Attributes			
EP Monograph: Serum bovinum		USP General Chapters: <90> FBS-QUALITY ATTRIBUTES	
EP Test	EP Specification	Equivalent USP Test	USP Spec
Identification A	The electrophoresis pattern corresponds to that for serum and is consistent with the type (fetal or other) of bovine serum.		
Identification B	Bovine origin is confirmed by a suitable immunochemical method (2.7.1).	Radial Immunodiffusion (RID) (note: this gives both ID and IgG)	Horse serum is negative (should not give a precipitation ring). FBS test and USP Fetal Bovine Serum RS samples are positive and contain NMT 500 mg/L of IgG
		pH	7.00 - 8.00, in undiluted serum sample
Osmolality (2.2.35)	280 -365 mOsmol/kg	Osmolality <785>	280 - 360 mOsmol/kg
Total Protein (2.5.33)	30 - 45 mg/mL	Total Protein <1057> - Method 5	30 - 45 mg/mL
Hemoglobin	NMT 4mg/mL determined by a validated spectrophotometric method	Hemoglobin Content <857>	NMT 30 mg/dL (0.3mg/mL)

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