

1 YES-DC-CP medium facilitates the isolation
of *Aspergillus* section *Flavi* from acidic field soils

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Aspergillus flavus and *parasiticus* agar (AFPA) medium is the most prevalent medium for the isolation of fungal strains of *Aspergillus* section *Flavi*. AFPA medium has been mainly used for the selection of the aflatoxin (AF) – producing strains of *Aspergillus flavus* and *A. parasiticus*. Recently we have developed an improved agar medium, named YES-DC-CP, for the isolation of *Aspergillus* section *Flavi*, regardless of the production of AF. In this study we adopted YES-DC-CP medium for the isolation of *Aspergillus* section *Flavi* strains from acidic tea field soils and compared the isolation efficacy with AFPA. As a result, YES-DC-CP medium was more suitable for the isolation. The isolated strains were chemically and genetically analyzed for the species identification. *A. caelatus*, one of the minor species of this section, was found in rather high frequencies.

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