IN - INDIA

NATIONAL AGRICULTURALLY IMPORTANT MICROBIAL CULTURE COLLECTION (NAIMCC)

ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms
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1. Requirements for Deposit

(a) Kinds of Microorganisms that May Be Deposited

The NAIMCC receives for long-term deposit of microorganisms for agricultural, forestry, environmental, biotechnological and industrial use. More specifically, NAIMCC accepts for deposit of bacteria, fungi and blue green algae (cyanobacteria) of BSL-1 and BSL-2. It also accepts microorganisms of dairy origin of BSL-1 and BSL-2 categories as per NIH Guidelines (http://www4.od.nih.gov/oba, page 35 onwards of NIH_Gulnes_Ink_2002_Recomoinant.pdf).

Apart from microorganisms, Microbial Genomic Resources Repository (MGRR) accepts genetic materials like plasmids, vectors, etc. of microbial origin.

The NAIMCC reserves the rights to refuse a deposit of microbial material whose conservation involves hazards or received in bad conditions or too difficult to handle or restricted from import by Indian Law.

(b) Technical Requirements and Procedures

(i) Form and Quantity

Materials for deposit should be pure and should be sent in the following form:

Bacteria and fungi including yeasts	10 freeze-dried ampoules and 2 active cultures (on slants). If freeze-dried cultures cannot be submitted the NAIMCC may do the freeze-drying on payment by the depositor
Blue green algae (cyanobacteria)	5 slants of active cultures and 5 tubes containing culture in liquid medium

Plasmids, vectors, clones etc. of microbial origin	5 x 20 micrograms of isolated and purified DNA preparations. Suitable host of the plasmid also needs to be deposited in active form (5 slants)

(ii) Time Required for Viability Testing

The NAIMCC will generally take one to eight weeks for viability test depending upon the type of cultures and growth pattern.

Bacteria	2-4 weeks
Fungi	4-6 weeks
Cyanobacteria	4-8 weeks

(iii) Depositor Checks and Renewal of Stocks

The NAIMCC will prepare, as and when it finds necessary, new batch(es) of lyophilized cultures by subculturing materials supplied by the depositor. The NAIMCC will send samples of the new batch and the depositor is required to check the authenticity of such microorganisms.

(c) Administrative Requirements and Procedures

(i) General

Language. The official languages are English, Hindi or Bilingual.

Contract. The NAIMCC does not enter into any written contract with the depositor defining the liabilities of either party, but by signing the NAIMCC deposit form the depositor accepts general terms and conditions and surrenders any right to withdraw his deposit during the required storage period. He also accepts that the organism will be distributed according to the relevant patent requirement.

Import and/or Quarantine Regulations. Cultures of microorganisms from outside India may require import clearance and/or be subjected to quarantine regulations. The depositors from abroad should communicate with NAIMCC/ICAR-NBAIM regarding such deposits before dispatch of cultures.

(ii) Making the Original Deposit

Requirements to Be Met by the Depositor: A depositor will be required to send a completed BP/1 Form which is the accession form for a deposit under the Budapest Treaty. For amendments to the scientific description or taxonomic designation a depositor will be required to send a completed BP/7 Form.

Official Notifications to the Depositor: The receipt and viability statement will be issued in English on the mandatory "international forms" BP/4 and BP/9, respectively. The attestation of

receipt of an amendment of scientific description or taxonomic designation will be issued on BP/8 Form. The notification of furnishing a sample to third parties will be issued on BP/14 Form.

Unofficial Notifications to the Depositor: Upon written request, the NAIMCC may communicate the date of deposit and accession number before the official receipt is issued only after the viability test is completed and a positive result is obtained.

Supply of Information to a Patent Agent. Upon written request by the depositor, the NAIMCC will send copies of the receipt and viability statement to both the depositor and his/her patent agent.

(iii) Converting a Previous Deposit

In case of a deposit made in the NAIMCC earlier, outside the provisions of the Budapest Treaty, the original depositor may convert the same to a Budapest Treaty deposit. However, if the original deposit was in the general category and is listed in the NAIMCC catalogue (printed or electronic) and had no restriction for distribution by the NAIMCC, the depositor will be requested to authorize the NAIMCC not to restrict distribution of such a deposit and waive his/her right to notification of release of the sample. If this condition is not acceptable then a fresh deposit of the material under the Budapest Treaty will be required. Deposits previously made with the NAIMCC for patent procedure or for safekeeping also can be converted to deposits under the Budapest Treaty. Administrative requirements and fees for conversion will be the same as for the original deposit under the Budapest Treaty.

(iv) Making a new Deposit

For making a new deposit the completed BP/2 Form will be required along with relevant documents as required under Rule 6.2. A receipt and viability statement for such a deposit will be issued on BP/5 and BP/9 Forms respectively.

2. Furnishing of Samples

(a) Requests for Samples

NAIMCC will furnish the samples under the conditions as per procedure provided in Rule 11 of the Regulations under the Budapest Treaty. For proof of entitlement BP/12 Form and for request BP/13 Form will be used in furnishing samples. For hazardous microorganisms the requesting party has to provide evidence that the proper facility is available and he/she has the requisite permission to work on such organisms. A requesting party from outside India also has to provide an import permit if it is required for that country. The NAIMCC will furnish samples prepared by it from the deposited sample(s).

(b) Notification of the Depositor

A depositor will be notified on BP/14 form when samples of their deposit have been furnished to third parties.

(c) Cataloguing of Budapest Treaty Deposits

Materials deposited under the Budapest Treaty will not be published in the NAIMCC catalogue (printed or electronic) or displayed on the Internet.

3. Schedule of Fees

Microbial and genetic materials	Indian Rupees
(a) Storage under Rule 12.1(a)(i)	20,000
(b) Conversion of a deposit from non-Budapest Treaty to a deposit in Budapest Treaty	20,000
(c) Prolongation of the duration of the storage over the one provided by Rule 9 of the Regulations under Budapest Treaty, per year	2,000
(d) Issue of viability statement on the basis of test	3,000
(e) Issue of viability statement on the basis of last viability test	1,000
(f) Furnishing of samples	3,000
(g) Communication of information under Rule 7.6	1,000
(h) Attestation referred to in Rule 8.2	1,000

4. Guidance for Depositors

The NAIMCC will be happy to provide written notes or advice to prospective depositors