

GB – UNITED KINGDOM

NATIONAL COLLECTION OF YEAST CULTURES (NCYC)

Quadram Institute Bioscience
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7UQ

Telephone: +44 (0) 1603 255 274

E-mail: ncyc@ncyc.co.uk

Internet: <http://www.ncyc.co.uk>

1. Requirements for Deposit

(a) Kinds of Microorganisms that May Be Deposited

Yeasts, other than known pathogens, that can be preserved without significant change to their properties by freeze drying or storage in liquid nitrogen.

(b) Technical Requirements and Procedures

(i) Form and Quantity

Cultures of yeasts are accepted by the NCYC either lyophilized or on agar slopes. The minimum number of replicates that must be provided by the depositor when making his deposit is two for lyophilized preparations and two for agar slope cultures.

(ii) Time Required for Viability Testing

The average length of time required for testing the viability of yeasts accepted by the NCYC is five days, but depositors should be aware that in some cases viability testing may take as long as 14 days.

(iii) Depositor Checks and Renewal of Stocks

The NCYC prepares its own lyophilized batches of the microorganism at the time of deposit, by subculturing material supplied by the depositor. New batches are prepared from these whenever necessary thereafter for the renewal of diminishing stocks. The depositor is required to test for authenticity samples from all batches of his microorganism prepared by the NCYC.

The NCYC stores material originally supplied by the depositor only until its own procedures have been completed.

(c) Administrative Requirements and Procedures

(i) General

Language. The official language of the NCYC is English. Communications in any other language are not accepted.

Contract. The NCYC application form, which the depositor is required to complete, constitutes a contract by which he is bound:

- to provide all necessary information requested by the NCYC;
- to replace the microorganism at his expense if the NCYC is no longer able to furnish samples of it;
- to pay all necessary fees;
- to indemnify the NCYC against any claims which may be brought against it as a consequence of the release of samples, unless such claims result from negligence on the part of the NCYC;
- not to withdraw his deposit during the required storage period;
- to authorize the NCYC to furnish samples according to the applicable patent requirements.

Import and/or Quarantine Regulations. The kinds of microorganisms accepted by the NCYC are not subject to import or quarantine regulations.

(ii) Making the Original Deposit

Requirements to Be Met by the Depositor. As well as the NCYC application form referred to in (i), above, depositors are required to complete the NCYC accession form for patent deposits. The NCYC does not require a special form to be completed in the event of a later indication or amendment of the scientific description and/or proposed taxonomic designation, or for a request for attestation that the NCYC has received such information.

Official Notifications to the Depositor. The receipt and viability statement are issued on mandatory “international forms” BP/4 and BP/9, respectively. A standard form is used for notifying the depositor of refusal to accept a microorganism for deposit, but standard forms are not used for other official notifications.

Unofficial Notifications to the Depositor. If requested, the NCYC will telephone or telex the date of deposit and accession number after the microorganism has been received, but before the official receipt is issued. The NCYC will similarly communicate the result of the viability test before the viability statement is issued.

Supply of Information to a Patent Agent. The NCYC does not routinely ask the depositor for the name and address of his patent agent. However, if requested, the NCYC will supply copies of the receipt and viability statement to either the depositor or his patent agent, but not to both.

(iii) Converting a Previous Deposit

Deposits made outside the provisions of the Budapest Treaty may be converted by the original depositor to Budapest Treaty deposits, whether or not they were originally deposited for patent purposes. However, any deposits previously made free of charge are subject on conversion to the storage fees normally levied for Budapest Treaty deposits. The administrative requirements for conversion are the same as those to be met in respect of an original deposit made under the Treaty.

(iv) Making a New Deposit

The NCYC does not require the depositor to complete a standard form when making a new deposit, but he must supply copies of the relevant documents and declarations required by Rule 6.2. The receipt and viability statement for a new deposit are issued on mandatory “international forms” BP/5 and BP/9, respectively.

2. Furnishing of Samples

(a) Requests for Samples

The NCYC advises third parties of the correct procedures to follow in order to make a valid request. In the case of requests requiring proof of entitlement, the NCYC will provide requesting parties with copies of model request form BP/12 and/or request forms used by individual industrial property offices (where it has been supplied with such forms). When responding to requests from overseas, the NCYC assumes that the requesting party has met the import requirements of his own country.

All samples furnished by the NCYC are from batches of its own preparations.

(b) Notification of the Depositor

Depositors are notified by letter when samples of their microorganism have been furnished to third parties.

(c) Cataloguing of Budapest Treaty Deposits

The NCYC does not list Budapest Treaty deposits in its published catalog.

3. Schedule of Fees

	<u>GBP</u>
(a) Storage – Deposit under the Budapest Treaty	700
(b) Extension of the duration of the storage beyond the period provided for in Rule 9 of the Regulations under the Budapest Treaty, per year	70
(c) Issuance of a viability statement	100
(d) Furnishing of a sample (plus postage and packaging costs)	225

The fee is payable to National Collection of Yeast Cultures (NCYC) and subject to VAT at the current rate, where applicable.

4. Guidance for Depositors

The NCYC does not produce a standard letter or guidance notes for prospective depositors.