

Modifications for Small Facilities

Small facilities may require a much smaller amount of food than the standard procedure yields. There are several modifications that can be made to the paramecia production process to meet the needs of a smaller facility.

Removing the Subculture Step:

One easy way to tailor the procedure to meet a smaller facilities needs, is to remove the subculture step. Instead of using culture plates to make subcultures and then using those subcultures to inoculate a large number of cages, each culture plate can be used to directly inoculate up to 4 cages.

- Remember to make enough Petri plates each week to make new cultures the next week, have at least two back up plates and make food cages.
- For example, if you are making 7 plate sets, 1 will be used for new plates, 2 should be saved for back up, leaving 4 for making cages.
- Four plates will make 16 cages of paramecia.

Petri Plates:

- Facilities needing less than 16 cages of food per week can reduce the number of Petri plates made in each batch.
- This decreases the amount of space need for storing cultures, decreases the amount of supplies needed, and reduces the amount of labor required to maintain the plates.
- Making a fewer number of plates also decreases labor because most of the ingredients and supplies require autoclaving.

Cage Size:

If 1 liter cages are too large for the daily needs of the facility, smaller cages can be made, as long as the recipe is adjusting accordingly.