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# Vinegar Eels (Turbatrix)

Catalogue Code: L 5.60

Immediately on receipt of your Vinegar Eels culture loosen the cap and place the bottle in a dark cupboard.

Vinegar Eels, *Anguillula aceti* (Phylum Nematoda) are free living non-parasitic round worms that are adapted to living in a low pH (acidic) medium. They are 12 mm in length, making them just visible to the naked eye.

## MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

In order to study the cultures, the movement of the organisms must be slowed down by the addition of Protoslo or Methyl cellulose. Females with developing embryos can be found within one week of starting a new culture. Embryonic development takes about eight days from the time of fertilization of the egg to the time of birth of the young. Stains such as Crystal Violet or Neutral Red make the internal organs more discernible.

## CULTURE MEDIUM

Vinegar Eels are readily cultured in large numbers in the laboratory, provided certain simple procedures are followed accurately. The organisms must be grown in natural cider vinegar that has not been chemically treated to inhibit the growth of bacteria and yeast upon which the worms feed. Alternatively, Vinegar eel Culture Medium is obtainable from Southern Biological.

Add your Southern Biological Vinegar Eel culture to approximately 20 ml of Culture Medium in a glass petri dish covered with a lid. Maintain in a cupboard at 20-25°C, sub-culturing every 6-8 weeks to fresh medium. Take care not to let the culture dry out.



## Supporting Products for Vinegar eels.

### Culture Medium

Code: CM 8 Vinegar eel culture medium

### Poster

Code: WC41 Nematoda

### Slowing Medium

Code: MC 11.0 Protoslo  
Code: MC 11.3 Methyl Cellulose (Powder) 20gm

### Books

Code: BK 22.10 Carolina Protozoa and Invertebrate Manual

### Stain/Indicator Solutions

Code: SI 6 Crystal Violet 0.5% 100ml  
Code: SI 12 Neutral Red 0.1% 100ml

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