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# microBYTES™

*A Hardy Diagnostics eNewsletter*

 **HARDY**  
DIAGNOSTICS  
*a culture of service...*

June, 2015

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## LoopCaddy

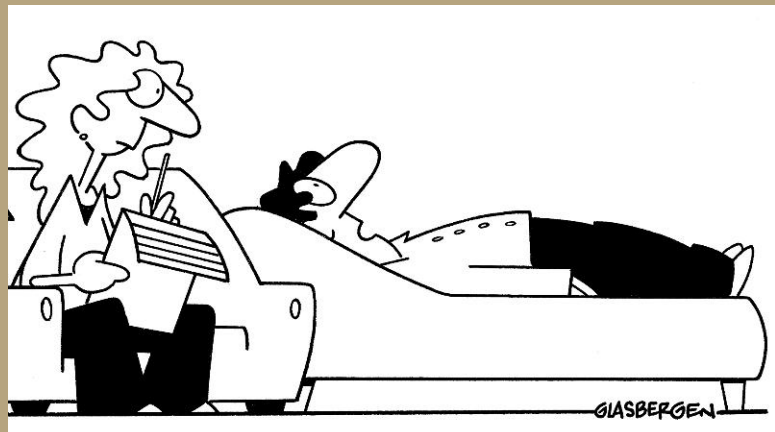
*The best way*

*to access your loops*



Now there's a better way to

### *Micro Musings...*



*"There are trillions of bacterial cells living on my  
body, but I still get lonely sometimes."*

handle your disposable loops on the benchtop. Hardy's LoopCaddy holds a sterile pack of 50 loops while protecting them from possible contaminants.

Watch a short video to find out why LoopCaddy is the ultimate in loop management.



View the complete loop selection from Hardy.

Order your LoopCaddy now.

\* \* \*

*Tired of media drying out?*

**MycoSeal**



Hardy's MycoSeals are designed to prevent the drying of culture media in Petri plates. They are especially useful for TB and mycology cultures that must be incubated for long



**When it comes to how we identify and classify Strep, we owe this woman a debt of gratitude.**

Find out why...

*Optical oddities...*



**Gender Guessing**

Which of the two photos is of a male? and which is the female? Scroll to bottom for the answer...

*"Believe half of what you see  
and none of what you hear."*  
~ Marvin Gaye ~

periods of time.

MycoSeals prevent moisture loss while being permeable to oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Watch a short video to learn more.

Order the MycoSeal

\* \* \*

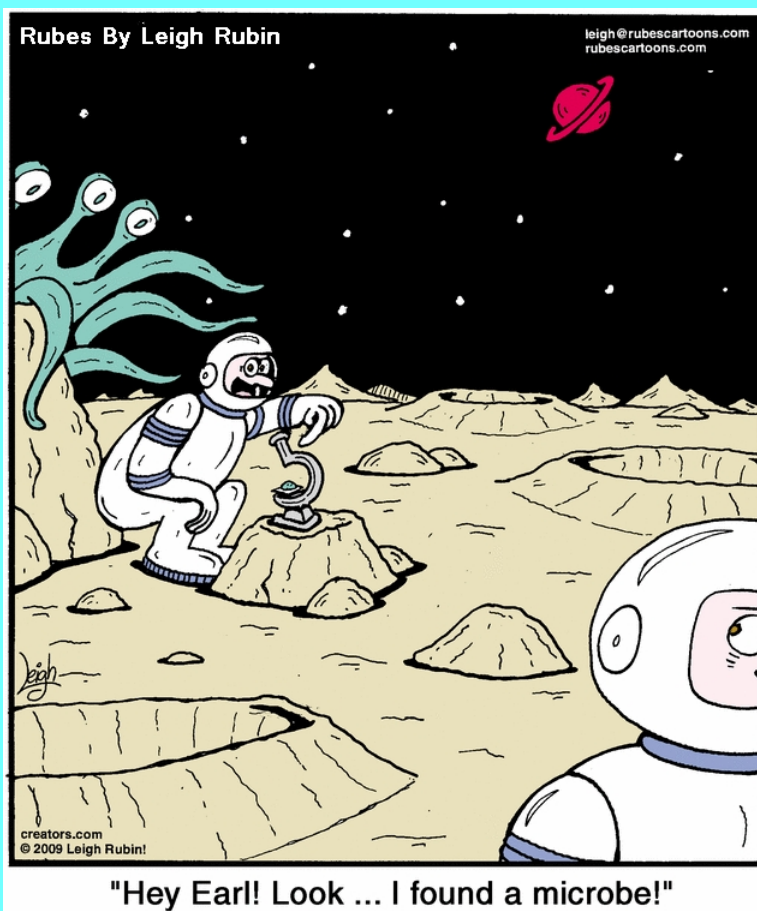
## Download Our Mini Catalogs



No matter what industry you may be in, Hardy has a mini catalog that contains the microbiology products that are needed in your lab.

- Food and Beverage
- Veterinary
- Anaerobic Microbiology
- Susceptibility Testing
- Control Organisms
- Cosmetics
- Pharmaceuticals
- Dehydrated Culture Media
- And more...

## RUBES



[Find more](#)

of Leigh Rubin's cartoon humor.

Want to [book Leigh](#) as a speaker at your next event?

## How Safe is Shrimp?



Americans have a large appetite for shrimp. Each of us eats on the average of four pounds per year. That three times more than 35 years ago.



[View a complete list and download the PDF version.](#)

[Request](#) the paper version.



\* \* \*

## Brainteasers



Know your history?  
Let's find out...

Test it [here](#)...

## Phraseology

### "Armed to the Teeth"

This is a pirate phrase originating in Port Royal Jamaica in the 1600's.

About 94% of the shrimp in the U.S. is imported from countries such as India, Indonesia, and Thailand. Most of this shrimp is farmed in large ponds or industrial tanks while being fed commercial pellets. Because fecal matter can quickly build up in these farms, chemicals and antibiotics are often used to control disease.



The labs at Consumer Reports found that, of the 342 packages of shrimp that they tested, 60% tested positive for *Salmonella*, *Staphylococcus aureus* (including MRSA), *Vibrio*, *Listeria*, and *E. coli*. The test results looked better for wild shrimp caught in U.S. waters with only 20% being contaminated with the bacteria listed above.

Due to the large quantities imported into the U.S., the FDA performs a visual inspection on only 3.7% of the incoming shrimp. In 2014, only 0.7% of the shrimp was actually tested in the FDA's laboratories.

Consumer Reports also found 11 of the 342 samples contained antibiotics, including sulfa drugs, tetracycline, and fluoroquinolones. Shrimp with antibiotic residues are strictly forbidden in the U.S., however, not all suppliers comply with the law.

To help preserve shrimp and keep it fresh looking, sulfites are routinely added at the time of capture. Suppliers are not required to list sulfites on the label, even though about 1% Americans have allergies or sensitivities to sulfites, which can lead to asthma, headaches, skin rashes, and other symptoms of varying severity.



Having only a single shot from their black powder guns, they would carry as many of these weapons as they could at once to keep up the fight.

In addition they carried a knife in their teeth for maximum arms capability.

\* \* \*

## Nasal Probiotics

We know all about probiotics that are used to balance the bacterial population in our intestines. But what about nasal probiotics to control pathogens that cause meningitis or earaches?



*Nasal probiotics have been shown to be useful in preventing disease.*

So what are shrimp lovers to do? Buy wild caught shrimp, if possible. Keep shrimp cold on the way home from the market. Work quickly when shelling. Wash your hands and utensils thoroughly after handling. Most importantly, cook your shrimp in order to kill any bacteria that most likely will be present.

*Reference: Consumer Reports, June 2015*

\* \* \*



*"Go ahead...  
get oil on my 40X just one more time..."*

*Hackers on your trackers...*

**Do you know who is  
tracking your tracker?**

A recent study from the United Kingdom showed that *Neisseria meningitidis* could be "crowded out" by harmless bacteria introduced with a nasal spray.

Researchers in Sheffield noticed that bacterial meningitis is less common in those colonized with the harmless bacteria *Neisseria lactamica*. The student subjects that received an *N. lactamica* inoculation had a reduced incidence of the potentially pathogenic *N. meningitidis* from 24 to 7%.

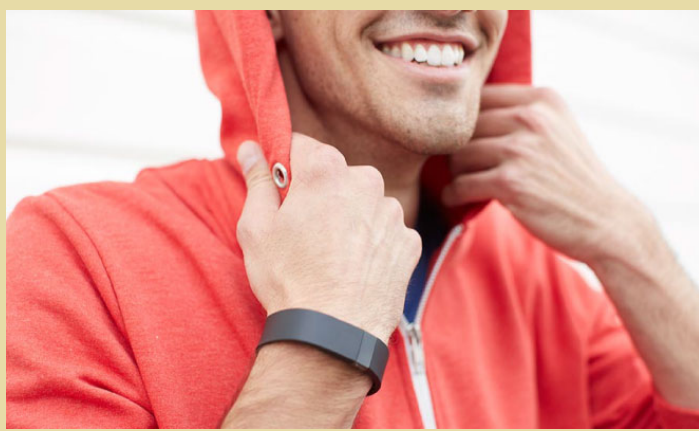
The researchers surmised that "the mechanism is either microbial competition within the nasopharynx, or innate immune responses that operate only in individuals actively carrying the commensal."

With another approach in Sweden, researchers are attempting to control otitis media (earaches) in children by also using nasal probiotics. In this study, they tested the effects of a 10-day course of a probiotic nasal spray containing the good bacteria,

*Streptococcus sanguinis*.

They reported 7 of 19 children treated with the *Streptococcus sanguinis*-containing nose spray experienced "complete or significant" recovery of otitis media, compared with only 1 of 17 treated with a placebo spray.

\* \* \*



A professional hacker stood on the sidelines of a famous women's marathon in Dublin, Ireland last year. He was able to secretly download names, addresses, and passwords of 563 of the runners as they passed by. How did he do it? He obtained the information from the runners' activity trackers, such as "Fitbits" as they passed by. It only took him several hours and about \$75 of parts to build a device to collect this personal information. Fortunately, this hacker was a security researcher from Symantec.



Over the last 12 months, about 3.3 million activity trackers were sold in the U.S. Some of these devices have a feature to allow the user to wirelessly transmit data from the tracker to their cellphones. This data may include passwords, time and dates, and GPS locations.

These new smart devices may be opening up opportunities for intrusive monitoring of which users may not be aware as our technology progresses beyond control.

\* \* \*



To prevent cross contamination...

## Endoscope Monitoring



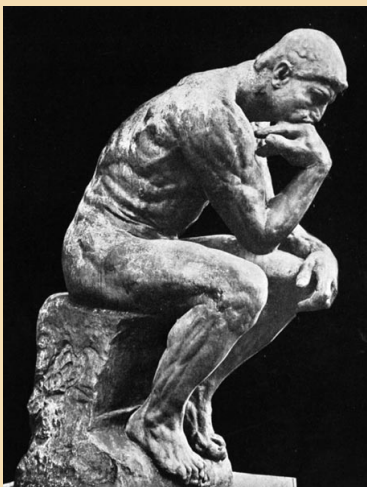
Hardy offers a complete system for the microbiological sampling of endoscopes.

View a simplified graphic showing the procedure.

See the complete CDC recommended procedure and the products needed to perform it.

\* \* \*

***Think about it...***



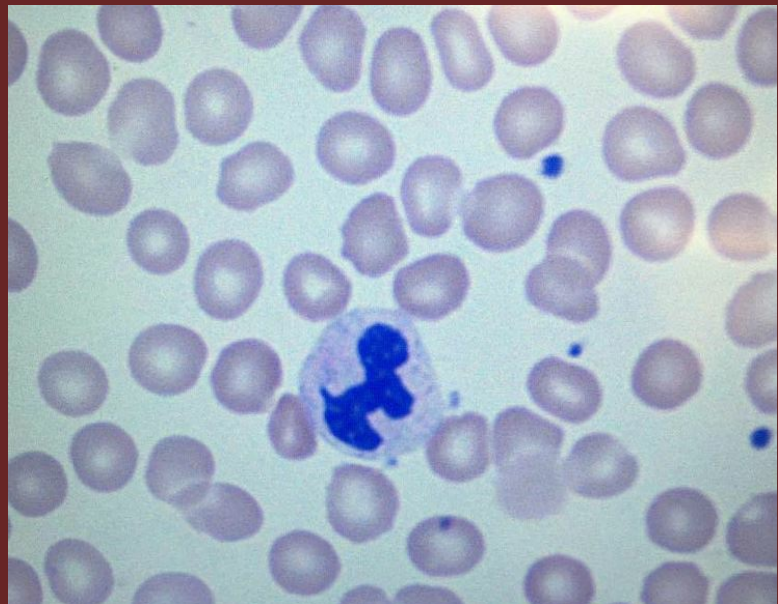
\* Why do scientists call it **research** when they are looking for something new?

Here's a little fish with a big appetite.

*It can eat up to ten times its weight and twice its length!*



## Barking White Cells



**Warning:**

\* If you got into a taxi and he started driving backwards, would the taxi driver end up owing you money?

\* Why is a carrot more orange than an orange?

\* When two airplanes almost collide why do they call it a near miss? It sounds like a near hit to me!

\* Do fish get cramps after eating?

\* \* \*

# Pun Zone Ahead



- I used to be a banker...but then I lost interest.
- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
- Have you ever tried to eat a clock? It's very time consuming.
- A man just assaulted me with milk, cream, and butter...*how dairy!*
- Did you hear about the man who got hit in the head with a can of soda? Lucky for him it was a soft drink.

*Wisdom to ponder...*



## Alexander Pope

1688 ~ 1744

*English poet.  
According to the  
Oxford Dictionary of  
Quotations, he is the second  
most often quoted, after  
Shakespeare.*



"Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

"The greatest magnifying glasses in the world are a man's own eyes when they look upon his own person."

"To err is human; to forgive, divine."

"The learned is happy, nature to explore; The fool is happy, that he knows no more."

"But Satan now is wiser than of yore, and tempts by making rich, not making poor."

"Praise undeserved, is satire in disguise."

"Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed."

"Some people will never learn anything; for this reason, because they understand everything too soon."

\* \* \* \*

**microBYTES™**  
A Hardy Diagnostics eNewsletter

Want to receive the MicroBytes Newsletter at home?  
[CLICK HERE](#)

Want to review past issues of MicroBytes?



"Are you sure you hooked him up to the right tank, Miss Brunswick?"

*Do you perform plate counts?*

## Compact Dry



What is Compact Dry and what are the advantages?

Watch a short video to find out...

See the brochure.

## Did you know?



## Hardy Diagnostics...

- Manufactures over 3,500 microbiology products for you to choose from.
- Stocks over 13,000 laboratory products to increase your selection.
- Is celebrating its 35th year of serving microbiologists.
- Maintains nine distribution centers in the U.S. for faster turn around time to your lab.
- Is ISO 13485 certified for the manufacture of medical devices to give you confidence in our products.
- Offers you detailed technical inserts, comprised of over 4,500 pages of information regarding microbiology.
- Services over 10,000 labs and maintains a worldwide network of over 65 distributors.
- Is an Employee-Owned company. *"If we act like we own the place...it's because we do!"*

*"You can live to be 100..."*



*if you give up all things that make you want to live to be 100."*

Woody Allen

## Online Ordering Made Easy!



Watch a short video to learn how easy it is to order from Hardy on-line!

*Pick. Click. You're Done!*

\* \* \*

ATTN: Teenagers

Tired of being harassed  
by your stupid parents?

View a [Corporate Profile](#).  
See the [Company Video](#).  
Send a [message to the president](#).



### QUICK LINKS...

[Our Website](#)  
[Our Products](#)  
[Company History](#)  
[More About Us](#)  
[Our Videos](#)



## ACT NOW!

Move out, get a job, pay your own bills, while  
you still know everything!

\* \* \*

## GENDER GUESSING



Actually the photo above is an androgynous composite of both sexes. It is the same photo, only the one on the left has been manipulated to increase the contrast.

The one with more contrast is usually presumed to be the female. The one with less contrast is perceived to be male to most people.