

## Growth Characteristics

Strains carrying the en-am locus grow normally on minimal medium; but strains carrying this locus in combination with am-1 alleles require large amounts of L-alanine (25 mM) for good growth they grow very well on casein hydrolysate (0.5% -Difco).

The am ; en-am strains are rather unstable on suboptimal medium and revertants wild type growth are frequently observed. Backmutation at the am locus is a likely explanations of this. The rather high incidence of revertant colonies is seen because of the strong selection for growth on suboptimal medium.