

***Coccidioides posadasii*, Δcts2/Δard1/Δcts3**

**Catalog No. NR-166**

**Product Description:** NR-166 was derived from *Coccidioides posadasii* (*C. posadasii*) strain C735 by deletion of two chitinase genes (*cts2* and *cts3*) and a D-arabinitol 2-dehydrogenase gene (*ard1*). This attenuated strain can transform into first-generation spherules, but it is incapable of endosporulation, and therefore, cannot reproduce in the parasitic form of the fungus, rendering it avirulent. Avirulence of the Δcts2/Δard1/Δcts3 strain was confirmed through a murine model of coccidioidomycosis.

**Lot<sup>1</sup>: 2398-54**

**Manufacturing Date: 24JAN2007**

TEST	SPECIFICATIONS	RESULTS
Virulence Assay <sup>1</sup>	Non-pathogenic and avirulent	Non-pathogenic and avirulent <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Approximately 5000 viable spores were delivered intranasally to susceptible C57BL/6 female mice. After observation for 4 weeks, the spleen and entire lungs from each mouse were placed on individual GYE (1% glucose, 0.5% yeast extract) agar plates with hygromycin and incubated for 10 days at 37°C for recovery of viable fungus.

<sup>2</sup>All mice infected with *C. posadasii*, Δcts2/Δard1/Δcts3 retained a normal and healthy appearance. No lesions were noted at gross necropsy. Cultured organs showed no evidence of fungal growth.

**Date:** 06 SEP 2012

**Signature:** 

**Title:** Technical Manager, BEI Authentication or designee

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