Biodegradable Plastics - Overview



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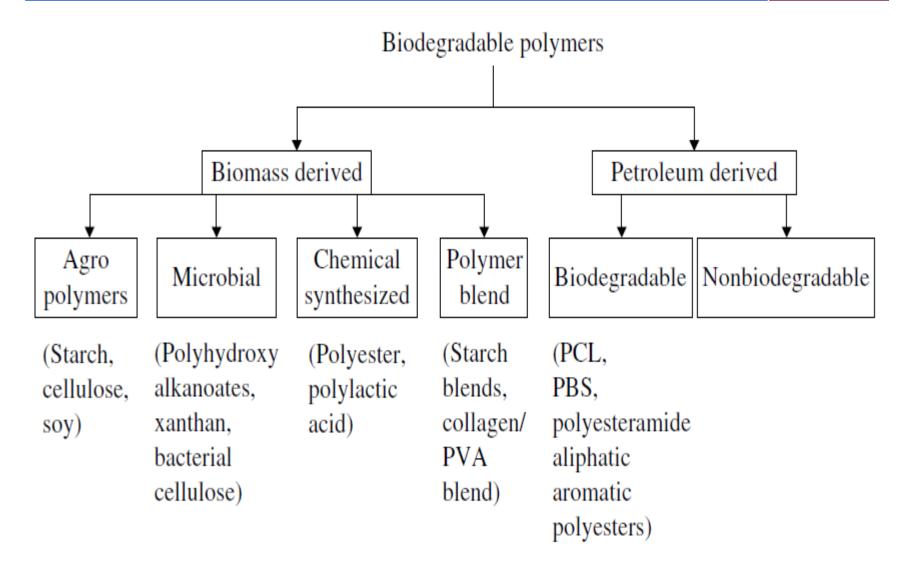
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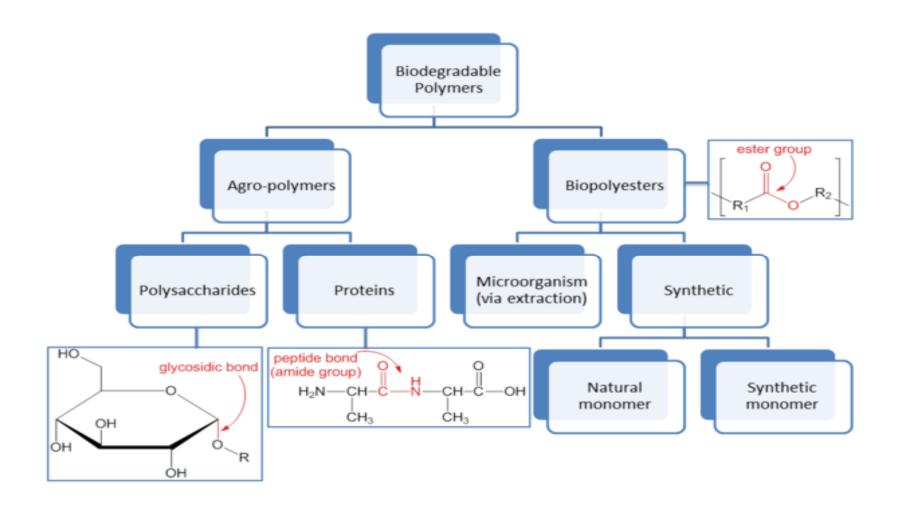
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Classification



Classification...





Biopolymers From Natural Origins

Polysaccharides

(e.g., starch, cellulose, lignin, chitin)

Proteins

(e.g., gelatine, casein, wheat gluten, silk and wool)

Lipids

(e.g., plant oils including castor oil and animal fats)

Polyesters produced by micro-organism or by plants

(e.g., polyhydroxy- alcanoates, poly-3-hydroxybutyrate)

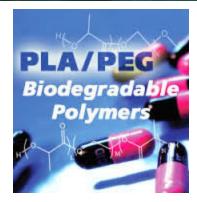
Polyesters synthesised from bio-derived monomers

(polylactic acid)

 Group of miscellaneous polymers (natural rubbers, composites).





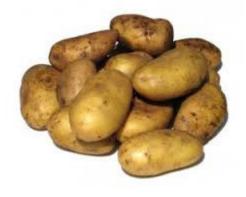




Polysaccharides

Starch polymers

- D-glucose organised in two major constituents: amylose and amylopectin.
- Amylose contains amorphous and crystalline regions. It forms a linear structure constituted by repeating units of 1-4-glucose.



Amylopectin is branched on amylose in starch

Structure of amylose

Structure of amylopectin



Proteins

Collagen and gelatine

Well-known animal polymers

Collagen

a relatively non-extensible protein

Gelatine

derives from the physical and chemical denaturising of collagen

Casein

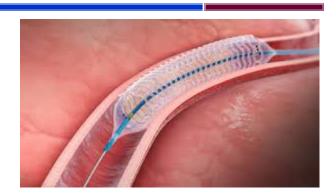
extracted from skim milk proteins

Wheat and corn gluten

flexible, resistant, transparent, and completely biodegradable

- Soy proteins
- Lipids

Plant oils and animal fat





Bacterial Plastics

Polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA)

Polyhydroxybutyrate (PHB)

Poly-3-hydroxyvalerate (PHV)





Biopolymers From Mineral Origins

Aliphatic polyesters

(e.g., polyglycolic acid, polybutylene succinate, polycaprolactone)

Aromatic polyesters

(e.g., polybutylene succinate terephthalate)



Modified polyolefins

(polyethylene or polypropylene with specific agents)



Biopolymers from Mineral Origins

Aliphatic polyesters

Polyglycolic acid (PGA), polylactic acid (PLA), polycaprolactone

Aromatic polyesters

Polybutylene succinate terephthalate

Polyvinylalcohols (PVA)

Bioplastics Market Share

Polylactic Acid (PLA)

Thermoplastic Starch/ Blends

- Cellulose acetate
- Extruded Starch
- Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHAs) and others

