Special Issue

The Potential of Nanocomposites in the Packaging Field

Message from the Guest Editors

in recent years we are witnessing a deep evolution of food packaging materials and technologies, in response to the increasingly complex needs of the markets, of the distribution and of consumers. Actually, several applications of nanomaterials in packaging and food safety have been studied and developed including for instance polymer/clay nanocomposites as high barrier packaging materials, silver nanoparticles as potent antimicrobial agents, nanosensors and nanomaterial-based assays for the detection of food contaminants or control the packaging conditions integrity. Furthermore, the increasing use of nanoparticle-based materials is bringing many concerns for the possible effects of their contact with food. Thus, the above mentioned issues strongly need to be further investigated in order to exploit the several potentialities of nanotechnology which can not only enable safe and effective distribution and preservation of foods but can also facilitate their end-use suitability and sustainability both at producer and the consumer levels.

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Nanoscience and nanotechnology are exciting fields of research and development, with wide applications to electronic, optical, and magnetic devices, biology, medicine, energy, and defense. At the heart of these fields are the synthesis, characterization, modeling, and applications of new materials with lower nanometer-scale dimensions, which we call “nanomaterials”. These materials can exhibit unusual mesoscopic properties and include nanoparticles, coatings and thin films, metal–organic frameworks, membranes, nano-alloys, quantum dots, self-assemblies, 2D materials such as graphene, and nanotubes. Our journal, *Nanomaterials*, has the goal of publishing the highest quality papers on all aspects of nanomaterial science to an interdisciplinary scientific audience. All of our articles are published with rigorous refereeing and open access.

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