

Special Issue

Sustainable Biopolymers

Message from the Guest Editor

Plastic is associated globally with high levels of waste and marine litter—especially single-use plastic. Petroleum-based plastics have superior properties; however, they are associated with a large CO₂ fingerprint, as plastics are usually incinerated at the end of their life cycle, releasing more CO₂, or are discarded into landfills or seas where they will accumulate exponentially for decades. A silver bullet for the plastic problem is the development of polymers by using natural and biogenic building monomers for a more sustainable environment. Sustainable bioplastics represent a key shift from a Fossil to a Circular Economy. Bioplastics can be developed from plants or animals and have significantly less CO₂ fingerprint in comparison to their counter petroleum-based plastics. Bioplastics derived from plant and animal residues are key for a sustainable bioplastic. The usage of agricultural by-products and residues to produce the needed bioplastic materials has a twofold effect: avoiding exhaustion of human food resources and promoting better management of waste residues, eliminating the need to burn or leaving them to naturally degrade.

Guest Editor

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Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.9.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker

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