CARBOHYDRATE POLYMERS

A Journal Devoted to Scientific and Technological Aspects of Industrially Relevant Polysaccharides

Aims and Scope

Carbohydrate Polymers is a major journal within the field of glycoscience, and covers the study and exploitation of polysaccharides which have current or potential application in areas such as bioenergy, bioplastics, biomaterials, nanotechnology, biorefining, drug delivery, tissue engineering, food, chemistry, packaging , paper, pharmaceuticals, medicine, oil recovery, textiles and wood.

Research must be innovative and advance scientific knowledge.

The role of the well-characterized carbohydrate polymer must be the major proportion of the work reported, not peripheral. At least one named carbohydrate polymer must be cited and be the main focus of the title of the paper, and of the paper itself. It is essential that authors provide convincing evidence that the carbohydrate polymer is of high purity. Where a polysaccharide is obtained from a supplier, essential structural information which will affect its behavior in the subsequent work should be given. For example, molecular size/viscosity information, mannuronate/guluronate ratio for alginates, degree of esterification for pectin, degree of deacetylation for chitosan. Editors are unlikely to send papers for formal review with a statement such as "sodium alginate was purchased from XXX Inc." unless additional information is supplied. To be acceptable, the paper must include some characterization of the polysaccharide (if not already known) in addition to the application studied. Characterization by the authors is usually preferable to values quoted from the manufacturer, since manufacturer values may be averages or ranges rather than pertinent to the particular lot in question. If the study is concerned with a new polysaccharide the monosaccharide composition, linkage information, and preferably molecular weight and/or degree of polymerization must be supplied. It is acceptable to refer to previously published work but if this is not in the literature it is necessary to make the appropriate measurements and supply the information in the submitted paper.

Topics include:

- structure and property relationships
- analytical methods
- chemical, enzymatic and physical modifications
- biosynthesis (natural, or new sequence generation) of the polysaccharide
- natural functions (including biological activities)
- interactions with other materials

Examples of papers which are not appropriate for Carbohydrate Polymers include:

- papers which focus on biological, physiological and pharmacological aspects of non-carbohydrate molecules attached to, or mixed with, carbohydrate polymers.
- papers on the materials science of biocomposites where there is no mention of any specific carbohydrate polymer, or the role of the carbohydrate polymer is not the major proportion of the study.
- papers focusing on polyalkanoates, polylactic acid, saponins or lignin.
- routine studies of extraction yields without characterisation of the extracted polysaccharide.
- routine studies of complexation of a drug with a single cyclodextrin.
- applications of new polysaccharides where the structure of the polysaccharide is unknown.
- papers on the production and isolation of enzymes which act on polysaccharides
- papers where the degree of polymerization of the saccharide chain is less than four.
- papers on starches (from different biological origins), unless the results provide some new insights of more general scientific interest or unusually specific application potential.

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