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Biobased Polymers

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This series is aimed at advanced undergraduates, academic and industrial researchers and professionals studying or using biobased polymers. Each brief will bear a general introduction enabling any reader to understand its topic.

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Surface Properties of Non-conventional Cellulose Fibres



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Abbreviations

Scattering angle
Wavelength
Zeta potential
Alkali-assisted microwave plus biological enzymatic technique
Borassus fruit fibre
Cassava bagasse
Cassava bagasse nanofibres
Crystallinity index
Cellulose microfibrils
Cellulose nanocrystals
Cellulose nanofibrils
Diameter
Derjaguin-Landau-Verwey-Overbeek theory
Degree of polymerization
Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy
Length
Life cycle assessment
Mass of sample after exposure to 65% RH
Maleated polypropylene
Microcrystalline cellulose
Giant Miscanthus
Mass of absolute dry material
Moisture sorption
Pineapple leaf fibre
Polydispersity index
Pea hull fibre
Poly(lactic) acid
Polypropylene
Plasticized starch
Poly(vinyl alcohol)

RH	Relative humidity
SCB	Sugarcane bagasse
SEM	Scanning electron microscopy
Т	Temperature
TEM	Transmission electron microscopy
VC	Variation coefficient
WAXS	Wide-angle X-ray scattering
X _{CR}	Crystallinity index determined by X-ray diffraction
XRD	X-ray diffraction
ZP	Zeta potential

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Abstract

Sustainability based on healthy ecosystems and environments is the target idea of today's development, and therefore, it is necessary to follow the same objectives also when studying fibres for new and additional applications; consequently, renewable natural materials with high added value are intensively researched.

An overview of some natural plant sources of cellulose fibres, which have not traditionally been used for the mass production of fibres, is given in the manuscript. Recent research results of fibre properties isolated from non-conventional plants are described. Besides, potential applicability in the field of nanocrystalline cellulose of some of these fibres is reviewed.

In addition, a study of fibres extracted from nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*), lucerne (*Medicago sativa*), weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*), balm-leaved archangel (*Lamium orvala*) and therefrom-derived nanocrystalline cellulose is presented and compared to hemp (*Cannabis sativa*) fibres.

Keywords Sustainable materials · Cellulose fibres · Non-conventional cellulose fibres · Properties · Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) · Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*) · Balm-leaved archangel (*Lamium orvala*) · Lucerne (*Medicago sativa*) weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*) · Nanocrystalline cellulose