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Thermal Stabilities of Bionanocomposites at Elevated Temperatures

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- Chapter
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Abstract

Bionanocomposites are polymer-composites, comprising of nanosized materials blended into polymers, plastics and fibres for industrial and other applications. Although similarities exist among several varieties of this class of compounds, their properties vary owing to the methods employed in producing them, hence, they appear nacre-like or stacked and are differentiated into an array of biomacromolecules which in turn influence their thermal/chemical stabilities alongside their functionalities, biodegradability, biocompatibilities as well as their modes of application. At higher temperatures, the nature of particle-reinforcements, packings, tensile strength, thermal stability, nanoparticle-dispersion, interface-morphology, matrix-materials, nature and bulk modulus, are largely responsible for their thermal stabilities when compared with those of their pristine counterparts. Their large

surface area to volume ratios are also responsible for their abilities to allow for the even distribution of thermal properties across the whole thickness or diameter of the materials. Furthermore, their methods of preparation, degree of compactness and change in pH, have a way of influencing their thermal properties which in turn stimulates electrostatic interactions that result in jellification or biofilm production/altered viscosities prior casting. Thus, they may become thermally fatigue or deformed if stretched beyond their permissible limits when in use. In this chapter, the properties that influence the thermal stabilities of bionanocomposites are discussed.

Keywords

- **Bionanocomposites**
- **Biomacromolecule**
- **High temperature**
- **Particle-reinforcements**
- **Thermal fatigue**
- **Thermal resistance**
- **Thermal stability**

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