

REVISION CARDS - BIODEGRADABLE PLASTICS

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On behalf of The World Association of Technology Teachers

W.A.T.T.



World Association of Technology Teachers

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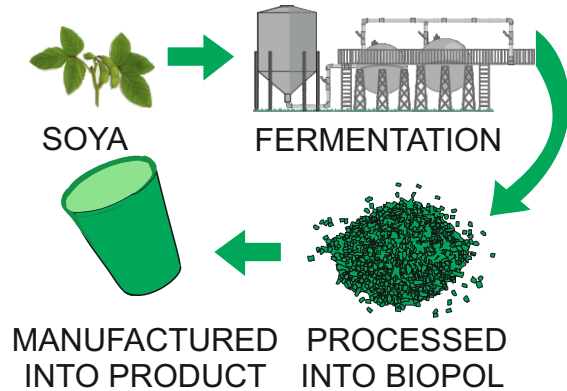
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BIOPOL BIODEGRADABLE PLASTIC

Biopol is the brand name for PHB. It is an environmentally friendly polymer. It is processed through the fermentation of corn and soya.

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EXAMPLE BIOPOL PRODUCTS

Some Biopol products are shown below.



ADVANTAGES OF BIOPOL

Environmentally friendly, does not cause pollution. Biopol products degrade after a few months in soil. Biopol is a completely non-toxic material. It is manufactured from a renewable source (plants).

DISADVANTAGES OF BIOPOL

More expensive to produce than fossil fuel plastics. Has a low resistance to acids and bases, including bleach, restricting its use as packaging. Biopol does not resist knocks and drops as well as other fossil fuel based plastics. It takes longer to ferment than plastics processed from, fossil fuels such as oil.

1. What is Biopol and how is it manufactured?

4 marks

2. Name three products manufactured from Biopol

3 marks

3. Describe / explain two disadvantages of Biopol

2marks