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Properties of montmorillonite-reinforced thermoplastic sago starch composites

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Abstract

In this work, biodegradable polymer was prepared from thermoplastic sago starch (TPSS) plasticized with glycerol. In order to improve the properties of the TPSS, Montmorillonite (MMT), a kind of reinforced additive was used in the preparation of montmorillonite-reinforced thermoplastic sago starch (MTRSS) composites via hot pressing method. The fabricated samples were investigated through X-ray diffractometry, Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) as well as thermal and morphological properties. FT-IR patterns show that in the MTRSS composites, the C-O groups of sago starch molecules shifted to higher wave number, while the reactive hydroxyl groups of MMT shifted to the lower wavenumber. On the other hand, X-ray diffraction revealed that MMT restrained the crystallization of MTRSS and intercalated in TPSS. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) revealed that the thermal stability

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