



Better
Plastics





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Circularity by Alternative Feedstocks



Specific Objectives

- ❖ Development of biodegradable materials based on the recovery of food waste and biomass;
- ❖ Development of sustainable materials and products from agroforestry waste resources
- ❖ Development of sustainable functional additives.



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Products/Services
or Processes

- ❖ Medium chain length polymers (e.g. MCL-PHA) for film production;
- ❖ Short chain length polymers (e.g. SCL-PHA) for the production of rigid and semi-rigid packaging;
- ❖ Carbon fibre from lignin;
- ❖ Industrial adhesives for use in cork and wood agglomerates;
- ❖ Sustainable antioxidant plasticizers for PVC production.





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Wastes

Hidrolisado Lignocelulósico



White Grape Waste



Red Grape Waste



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Food waste



Wastes characterization

Parameter	Apple Pulp Waste	Lignocellulosic Hydrolysate	Red Grape Waste	White Grape Waste
pH	3.59 ± 0.00	0.77 ± 0.02	3.19 ± 0.03	3.50 ± 0.03
Suspended Solids (g/L)	n.d.	1.28 ± 0.39	10.61 ± 0.57	11.78 ± 3.00
Soluble Solids (g/L)	n.d.	90.00 ± 1.42	849.67 ± 2.45	844.00 ± 66.48
Glucose (g/L)	11.5 ± 0.4	0.22 ± 0.00	375.28 ± 25.41	367.96 ± 4.36
Fructose (g/L)	29.1 ± 0.80	n.d.	394.96 ± 52.24	434.81 ± 69.61
Furfural (mg/L)	n.d.	2.41	3.41	7.96
5-HMF (mg/L)	n.d.	3.58	39.57	140.35
Levulinic acid (g/L)	n.d.	2.67	n.d.	n.d.

n.d. – not detected;



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PHA production

Bioreactor cultivation runs





Production Parameters

Parameters	Apple Pulp	Grape Waste 1	Grape Waste 2
max CDW (g/L)	13.34	53.39	11.51
PHA (g/L)	5.20	0.55	5.65
rPHA (g/L·h)	0.10	0.03	0.10
PHA content (%)	39.00	1.27	49.06

PHA characterization

Parameters	Apple Pulp	Grape Waste 1	Grape Waste 2
max CDW (g/L)	13.34	53.39	11.51
PHA content (%)	39.00	1.27	49.06
PHA (g/L)	5.20	0.55	5.65
rPHA (g/L·h)	0.10	0.03	0.10
PHA composition (%)	HHx - 2	HHx - 2	HHx - 3
	HO - 16	HO - 20	HO - 22
	<u>HD - 63</u>	HD - 45	<u>HD - 53</u>
	HDd - 7	HDd - 21	HDd - 12
	HTd - 12	HTd - 12	HTd - 10

ADESIVOS DE BASE NATURAL PARA AGLOMERADOS



- **Formaldeído**
- **Fontes fósseis**



Toxicidade para o ambiente, os trabalhadores e os utilizadores finais



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ADESIVOS DE BASE NATURAL PARA AGLOMERADOS

- Derivados de pinho, ácidos diméricos
- Óleos vegetais usados
- Polióis de origem natural
- Proteínas

Baixo conteúdo em fontes "fósseis"



ADESIVOS DE BASE NATURAL PARA AGLOMERADOS

Absorção de água

Póliol	# Identificativo placa	Formulação	Condições de prensagem	Inchamento (%)
	19	6% de polyol 1.1 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	132° C; 10 min	11
	36	3,75% de polyol 1.1 + 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	132° C; 10 min	15
	48	6% de polyol 1.1 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 8 min	22
	46	1,5% de polyol 1.1 + 1,5% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 8 min	37
Póliol 1.1	52	6% de polyol 1.1 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 10 min	6
	50	1,5% de polyol 1.1 + 1,5% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 10 min	43
	39	6% de polyol 1.1 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	180° C; 8 min	19
	42	3,75% de polyol 1.1 + 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	180° C; 8 min	29
	51	1,5% de polyol 1.1 + 1,5% isocyanate + 20 ml water	180° C; 10 min	42
	40	3,75% de polyol 2.2 + 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	132° C; 8 min	21
	27	6% de polyol 2.2 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	132° C; 10 min	24
Póliol 2,2	34	3,75% de polyol 2.2 + 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	132° C; 10 min	25
	54	3,75% de polyol 2.2 + 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 8 min	28
	21	6% de polyol 2.2 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 10 min	7
	22	3,75% de polyol 2.2 + 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 10 min	32
Póliol 3	57	6% de polyol 3 + 6% isocyanate + 20 ml water	132° C; 8 min	19
	49	3,75% de polyol 3+ 3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 8 min	33
	38	1,5% isocyanate + 20 ml water	160° C; 10 min	45
none	33	3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	180° C; 8 min	32
	58	1,5% isocyanate + 20 ml water	180° C; 8 min	51
	13	3,75% isocyanate + 20 ml water	180° C; 10 min	39



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ADESIVOS DE BASE NATURAL PARA AGLOMERADOS

Após mais de 100 formulações....



Polióis de base natural e óleos vegetais usados

>96% das matérias-primas de base natural



Bio-ligante + Proteínas



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Circularity by Alternative Feedstocks

Valorisation of lignin, which exists in large quantities as a residue from the production of cellulose pulp, for the production of short green carbon fibres



Products/Services
or Processes



Framework

- **Lignin composites:** Dispersion of lignin in the polymer to form lignin composites.
- **Lignin filaments:** Produce filaments with a controlled diameter and flexibility.
- **Filament thermostabilization:** Stabilize filaments inducing orientation.
- **Filament carbonization:** Produce green fibers for carbon fiber precursors.

Lignin composites

Lignin filaments

Thermostabilization

Carbonization

Green Fibers



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Lignin Composites

- Melt mixing of lignin with polymer in a micro-compounder Xplore MC15
- Mixing time (recirculation): 10 min
- screw velocity of 50 rpm
- acceleration of 50 rpm²



Lignin composites

Lignin filaments

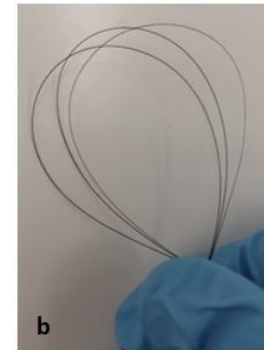
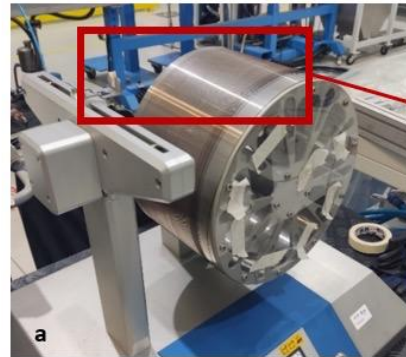
Thermostabilization

Carbonization

Green Fibers

Lignin Filaments

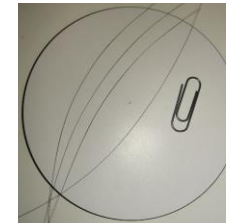
- Extruder Die - 250 μm \varnothing
- \varnothing of extruded filament $\sim 160 \mu\text{m}$
- Filament compositions wt%:
 - PET-G 50/50 Lignin
 - Pet-G 40/60 Lignin
 - PC/ABS 50/50 Lignin



PET-G-60LHP



PET-G-50LHP



PC/ABS-50LHP

Lignin composites

Lignin filaments

Thermostabilization

Carbonization

Green Fibers

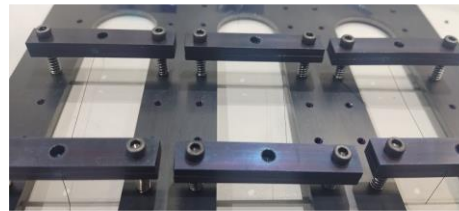


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Thermostabilization of Lignin/Polymer filaments



PETG-50LHP



PETG-60LHP



PCABS-50LHP

Lignin composites

Lignin filaments

Thermostabilization

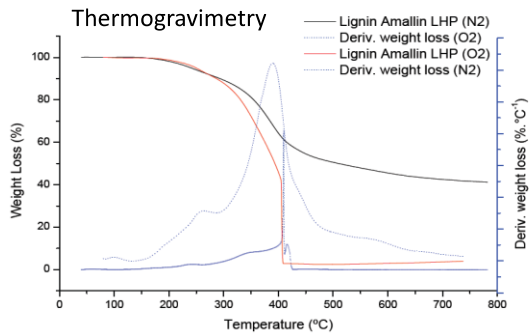
Carbonization

Green Fibers

Characterization

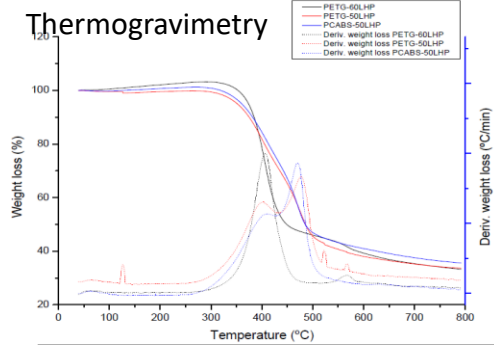
Thermal Analysis

Lignin



Lignin (test atmosphere)	Residual mass at 120 °C (%wt)	Residual mass at 250 °C (%wt)	Residual mass at 750 °C (%wt)
LHP (O ₂)	99.69 ± 0,07	92,85 ± 0,26	No residue
LHP (N ₂)	99.75 ± 0,08	94,90 ± 0,72	42.4 ± 1.6

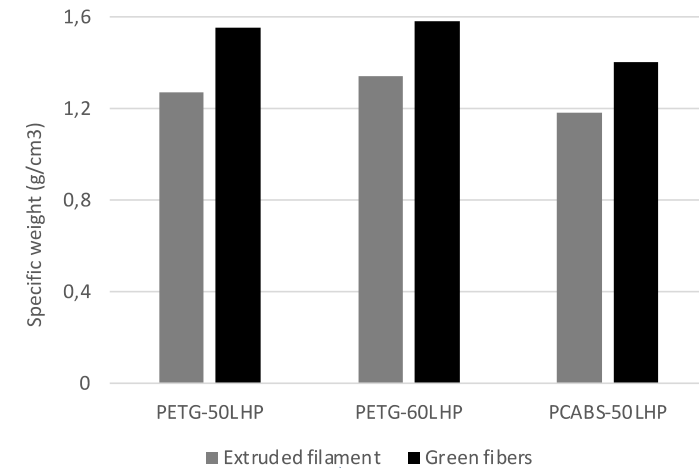
Composites



Sample	Residual mass @ 750 °C (%wt) (extruded fibers)	Residual mass @ 750 °C (%wt) (stabilized fibers)
PETG-50LHP	28.9 ± 0.7	34.7 ± 1.3
PETG-60LHP	38.9 ± 1.2	34.5 ± 3.2
PCABS-50LHP	25.4 ± 0.6	37.2 ± 1.8

Stabilized Fibers

Specific Weight



Lignin composites

Lignin filaments

Thermostabilization

Carbonization

Green Fibers



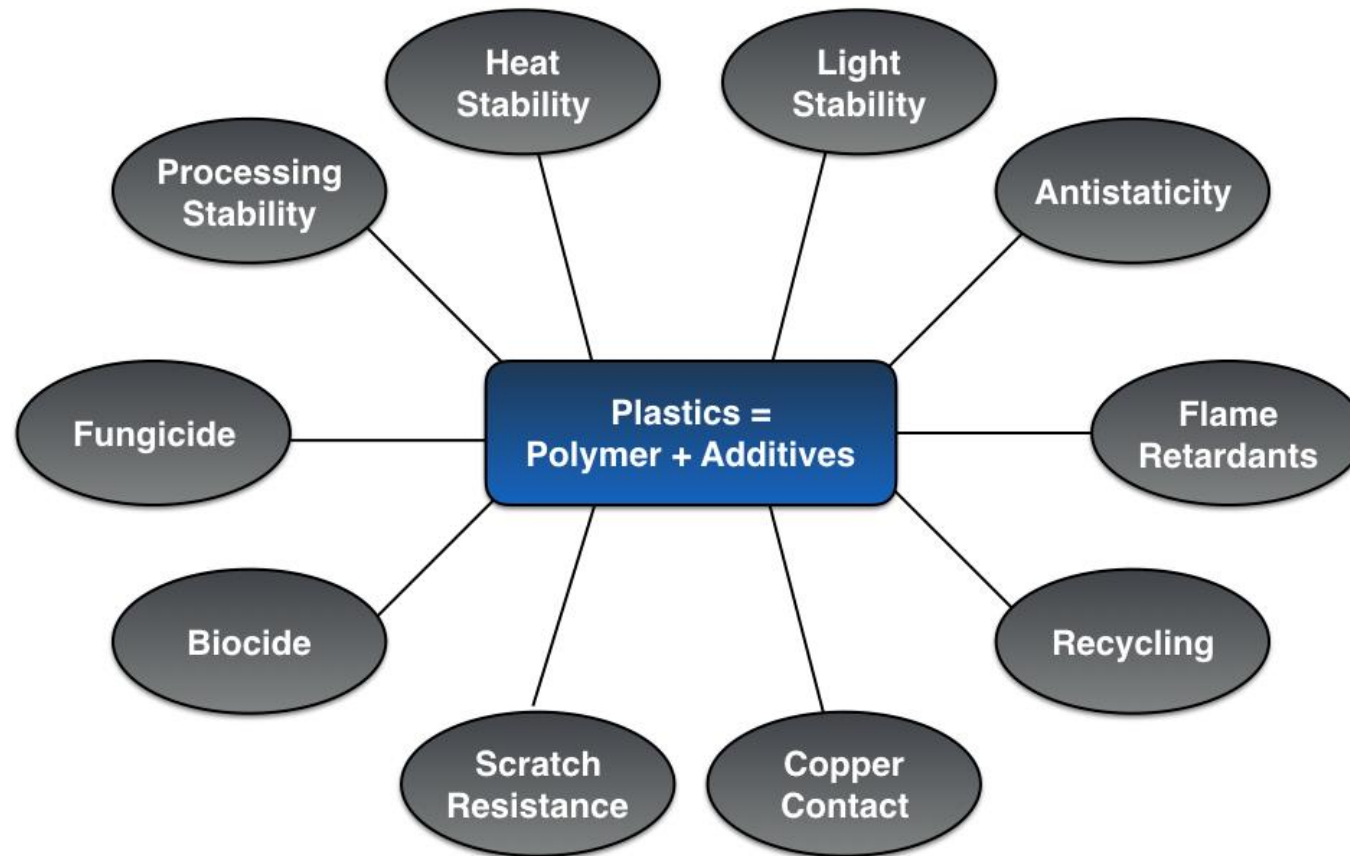
Conclusions

- Our experimental results have shown promising characteristics for the lignin composite filaments, including good thermal stability and an increased density and carbon content after thermostabilization
- While more research is needed to further optimize the production process and improve the properties of the fibers, our work opens up exciting possibilities for the use of lignin in carbon fiber production



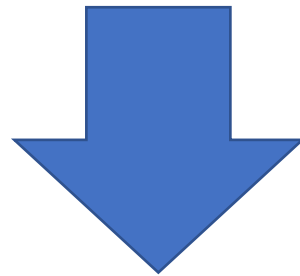
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ADITIVOS



Foram produzidos aditivos para formulação de polímeros:

- Antioxidantes
- Anti-estáticoS
- Plastificantes



Lotes de produção para uso na formulação de PVC (perfis) e PE (filmes)



ADITIVOS

ANTI-OXIDANTS

Bio-oils, alkylphenols fraction



Evaluation of antioxidant activity by gel time



Preparation of batches for polymer formulation



ANTI-STATICS

Chemical modification of vegetable oils



Evaluation of anti-static activity



Preparation of batches for polymer formulation



PLASTICIZERS

Preparation of plasticisers with tall oil fatty acids, rosin, residues



Preparation of batches for polymer formulation



Mechanical properties



PROTOTYPES



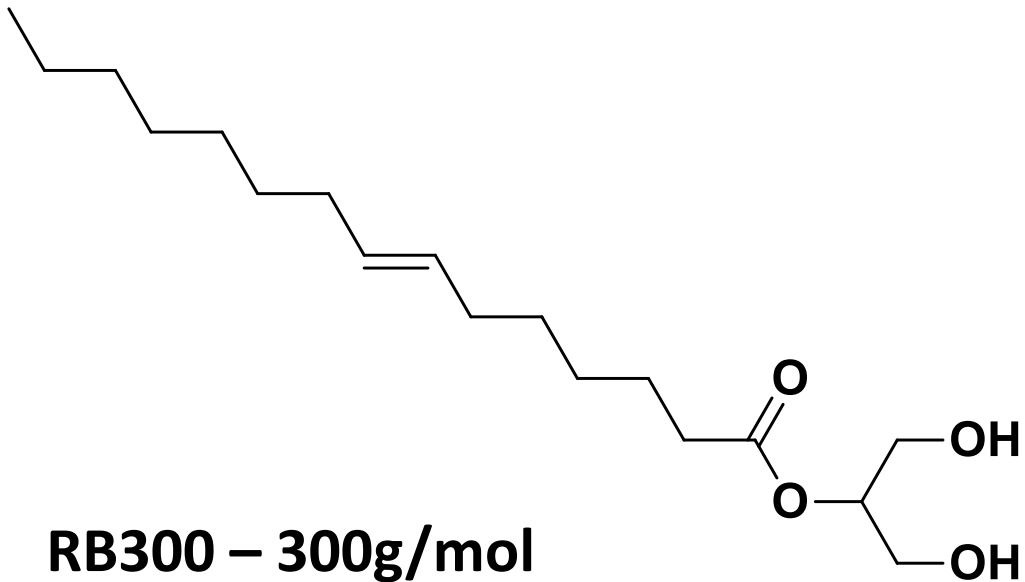
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RESIDUES OF BIOMASS/EDIBLE OIL/CARDANOL	QUANT. (G)	RESIN (G)	INITIATOR (3%)	ACCELERATOR (ML)	GEL TIME (H/MIN/S)
BIO-OIL	01288	12.0496	0.1204	0.0699	0:12:01
BIO-OIL/SOYBEN-OH	01235/0.1160	12.0740	0.1134	0.0521	0:15:19
BIO-OIL/SOYBEAN-OH	0.1682/91.6	12.7191	0.1076	0.0686	0:22:10
BIO-OIL/SOYBEAN-OH	0.158	12.6996	0.1052	0.0562	0:54:32
BIO-OIL/CARDANOL	0.1165/0.0342	12.0374	0.1123	0.0513	0:14:31
BIO-OIL/CARDANOL	0.1175/0.0736	12.0401	0.1021	0.0649	0:16:39
BIO-OIL/SOYBEAN-EST	0.1094/0.0597	12.0478	0.1230	0.0510	0:13:22
BANANA TREE RESIDUES	0.1096	12.0916	0.1086	0.0530	0:07:11



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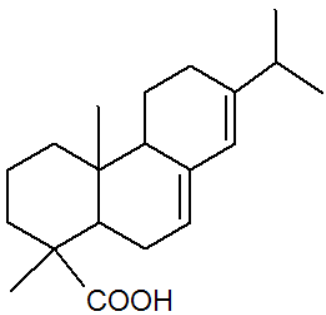
Plastificantes à base de resíduos



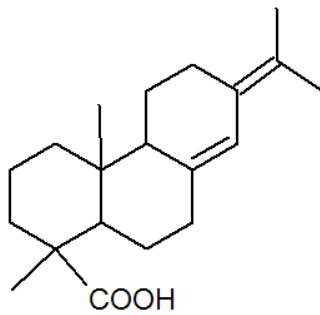


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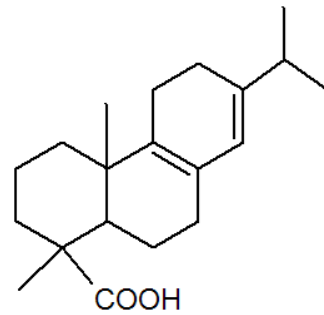
Plastificantes à base de colofónia



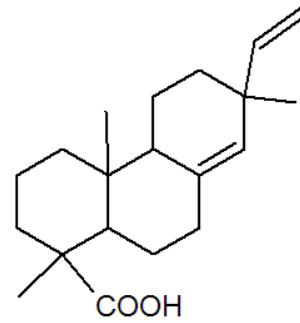
Abietic Acid



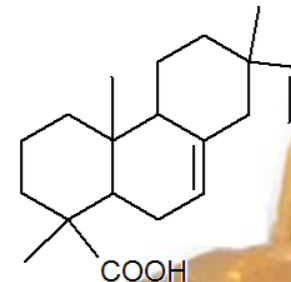
Neoabietic Acid



Palustric Acid



Pimaric Acid

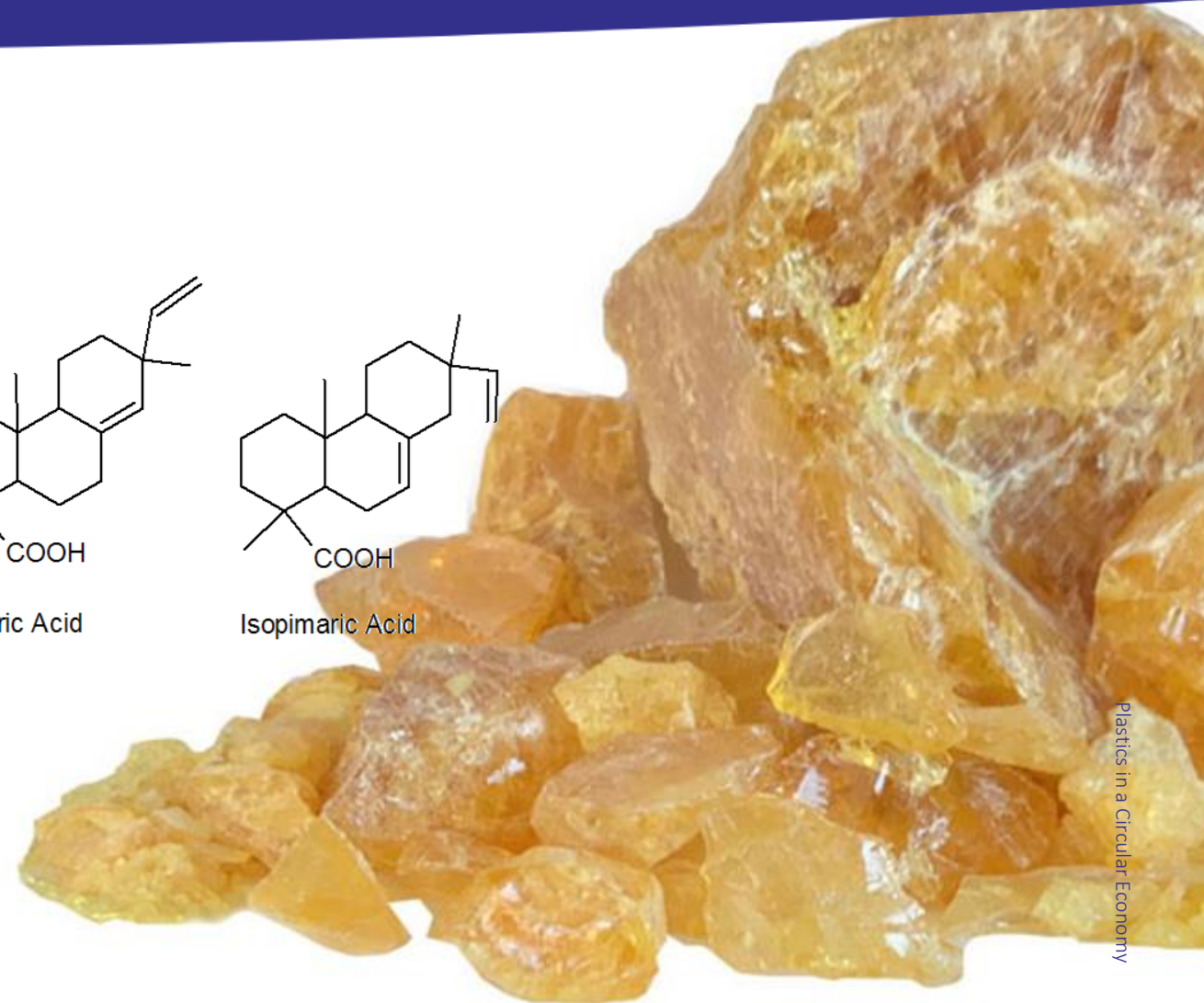


Isopimaric Acid

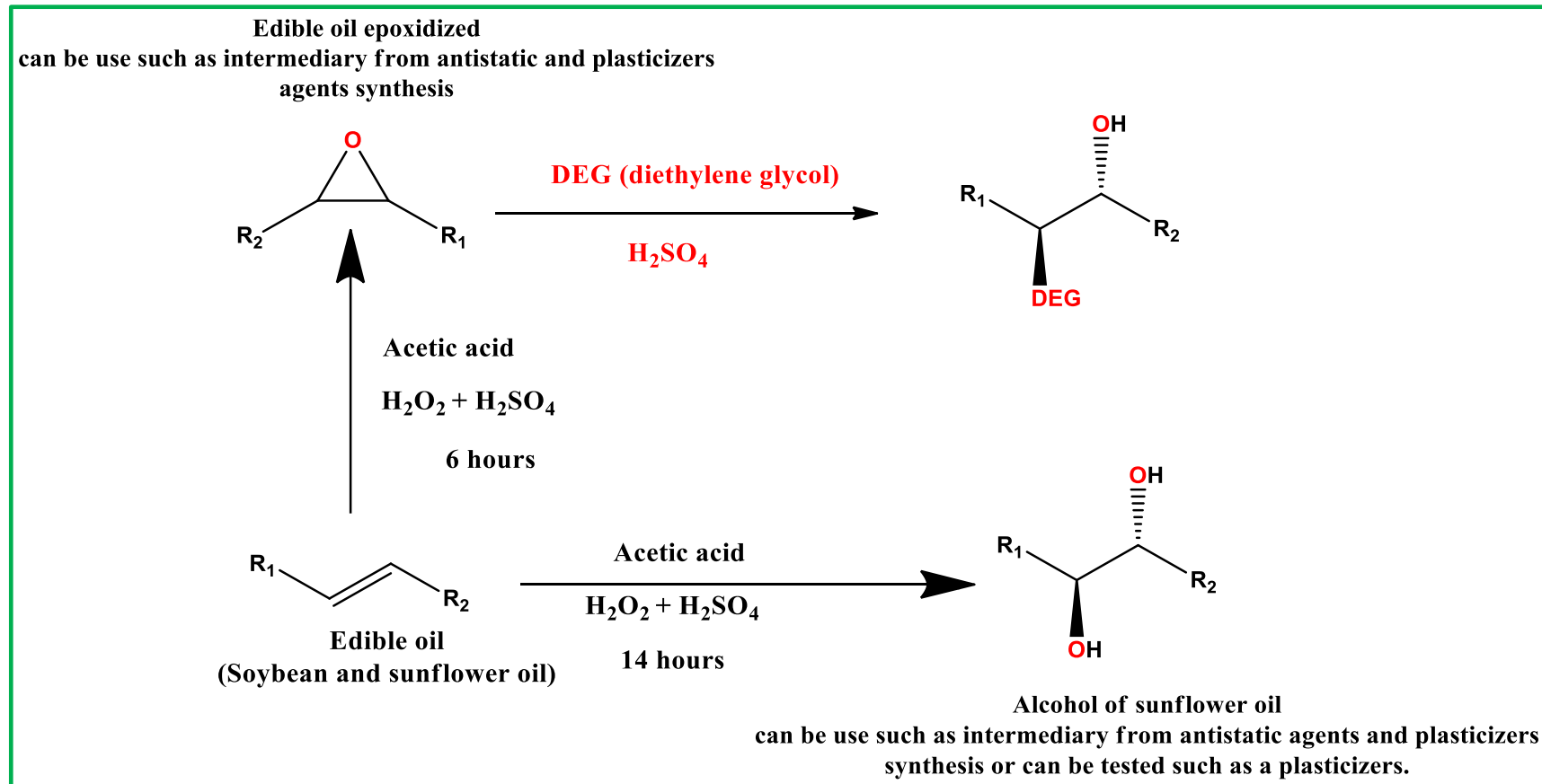
EGR450 – 450g/mol

GTR1000 – 1000g/mol

PTR1300 – 1300g/mol

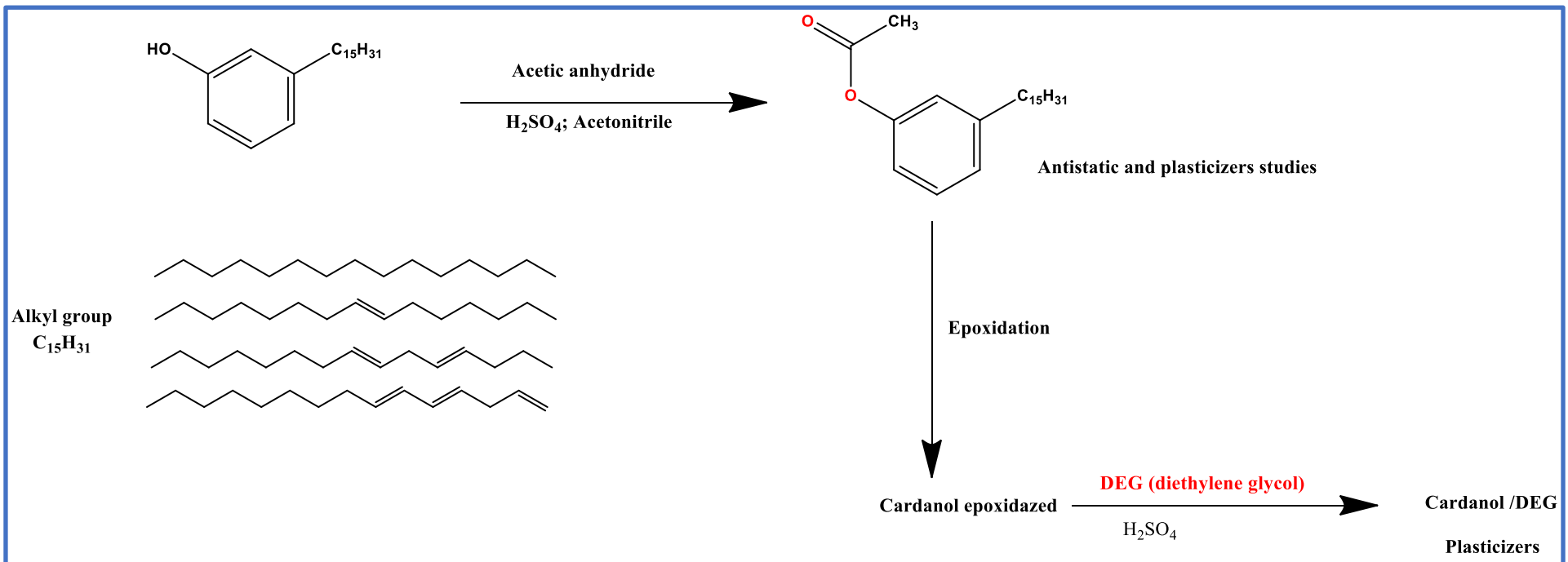


Preparação de componentes antiestáticos e plastificantes





Preparação de componentes antiestáticos e plastificantes





Próximos passos

- Finalizar a produção de lotes para testes industriais
- Teste dos aditivos com PVC e PE
- Avaliação das propriedades dos materiais
- Produção de protótipos



Ações de Divulgação

Tipo	Plano de Execução
Publicação de Artigos científicos em revistas e livros da especialidade em cooperação ENESIs e Empresas	Publicados 2 artigos, estão em preparação/planeados 5 papers
Participação em congressos e conferências Técnico-Científicas	4 conferencias, estão planeadas mais participações
Participação em Feiras /Workshops	3 workshops
Teses de Mestrado e Doutoramento	3 PhDs, 1 MSc
Pedidos Provisórios de Patente (*)	A decidir até ao final do projecto
Outreach	Acções de divulgação científica



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Innovation Ecosystem | PPS 4





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Plastics in a Circular Economy