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Fundamental questions Elemental answers



Showcasing research from Professor Colleen N. Scott's laboratory, Department of Chemistry, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi 39762, USA.

Biobased copoly(acetal-triazole)s with tunable degradable properties

This vibrant artwork depicts the essential yet problematic nature of plastics. Set in an underwater scene, it highlights environmental pollution from non-degradable plastics by showcasing synthetic polymers interwoven with marine life. The colourful molecular chains represent model polymers designed for controlled degradation under neutral pH conditions. Featuring PEG and acetal groups, these polymers illustrate the potential for reducing pollution through engineered biodegradation. The piece emphasizes the delicate balance between the benefits of plastics and the need for innovative solutions to mitigate their environmental impact.



See Colleen N. Scott *et al., Mol. Syst. Des. Eng.*, 2024, **9**, 744.



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Registered charity number: 207890