

Market Data and Trends for “Bio-based Building Blocks and Polymers”

Nova-Institute

Wageningen University & Research

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Pauline Ruiz, nova-Institute



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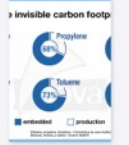







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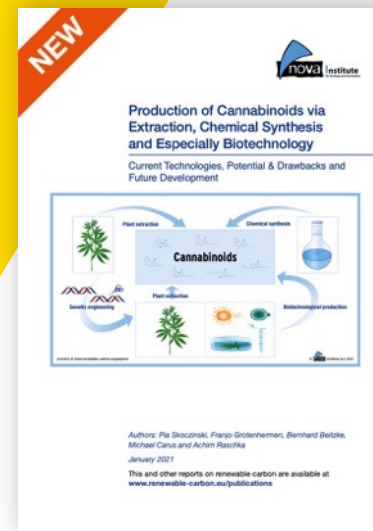
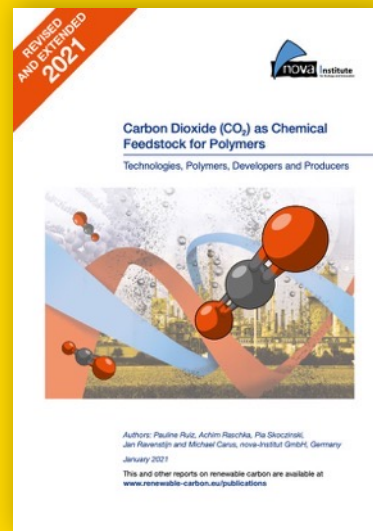
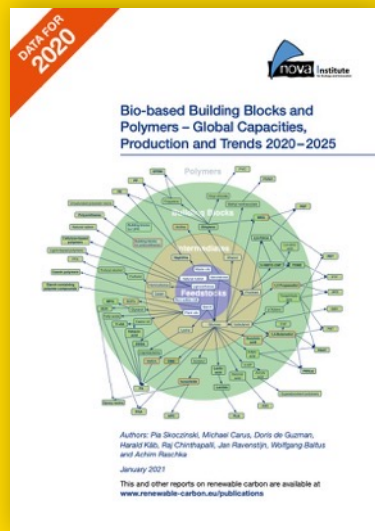
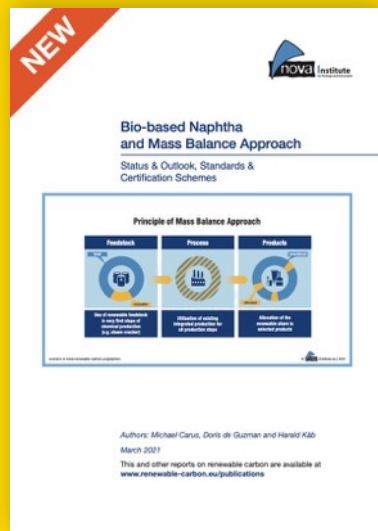
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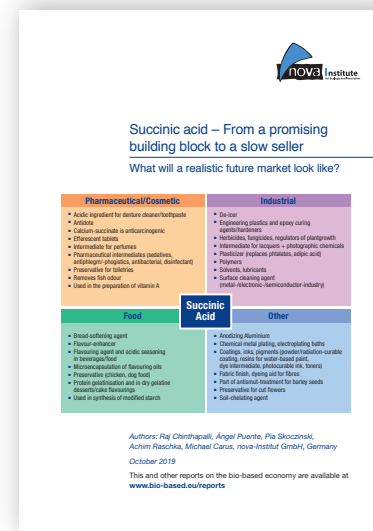
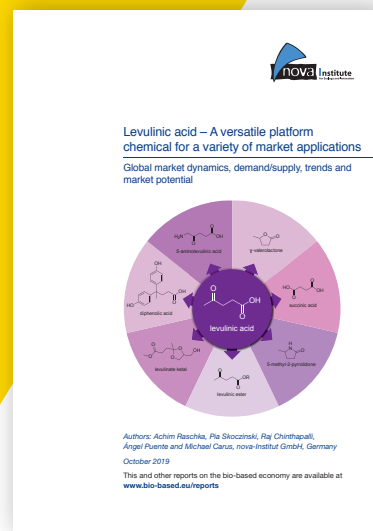
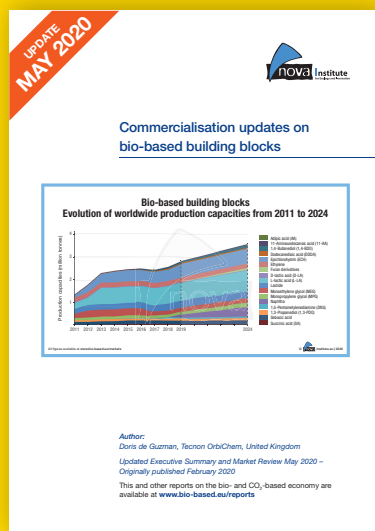
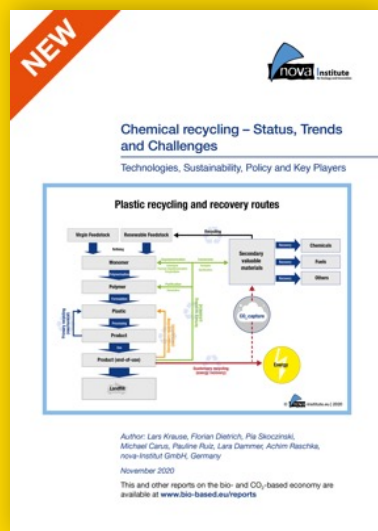
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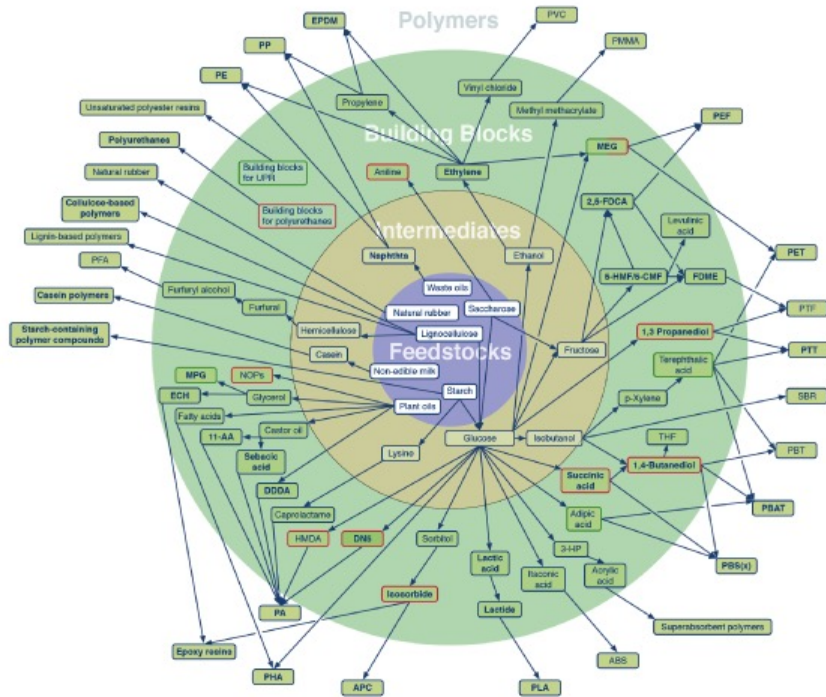
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Bio-based Building Blocks and Polymers – Global Capacities, Production and Trends 2020–2025



Authors: Pia Skoczinski, Michael Carus, Doris de Guzman,
Harald Käß, Raj Chinthapalli, Jan Ravenstijn, Wolfgang Baltus
and Achim Raschka

January 2021

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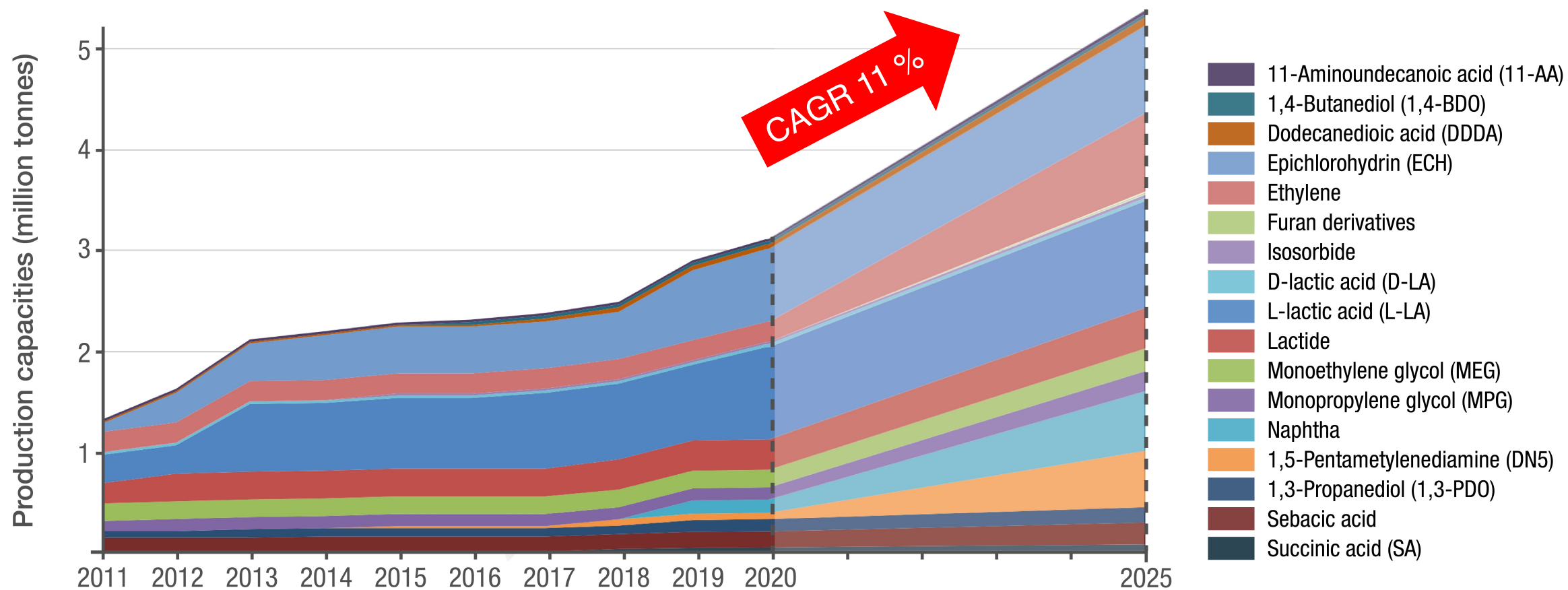


- Published in January 2021
- Data for 2020
- 338 pages
- 17 bio-based building blocks and 17 polymers
- 174 company profiles
- € 3,000 – www.renewable-carbon.eu/publications

Bio-based Building Blocks

Bio-based building blocks

Evolution of worldwide production capacities from 2011 to 2025



Increase in production capacity of 212,000 tonnes from 2019 to 2020

- Asian expansion of **epichlorohydrin (ECH)** capacity
- Asian capacity increase of **D-/L-lactic acid**
- European capacity increase of **1,3-propanediol (1,3-PDO)**
- Asian increase in **succinic acid (SA)** capacity

	2020	2025
Capacity	3.1 million tonnes	5.4 million tonnes

Main drivers for capacity increase to 2025:

- 11-Aminoundecanoic acid (11-AA)
- Dodecanedioic acid (DDDA)
- Ethylene
- **Furan derivatives:** 5-Chloromethylfurfural (5-CMF), 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid (2,5-FDCA), 5-hydroxymethylfurfural (5-HMF)
- **Monopropylene glycol (MPG)**
- Naphtha
- 1,5-Pentamethylenediamine (DN5)
- **Succinic acid (SA)**

5-Chloromethylfurfural (5-CMF), feedstock: fructose

- Alternative for 2,5-FDCA and FDME synthesis via the instable 5-HMF
- Mainly used as an intermediate and raw material for the production of biofuels and bio-based PET
- Production is mainly in North America and Australia and expected for 2021/2022

5-Hydroxymethylfurfural (5-HMF), feedstock: fructose

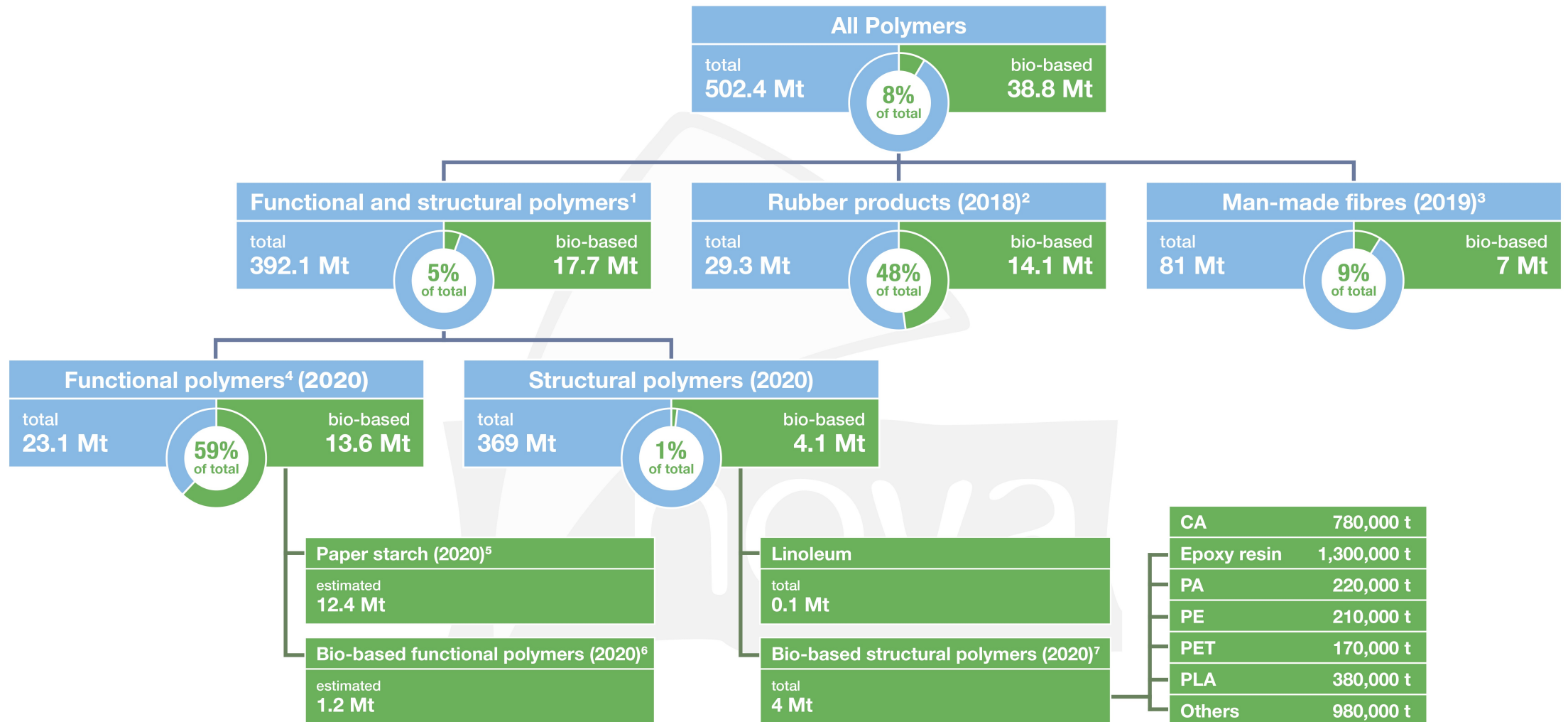
- Mainly used as the basis for 2,5-FDCA production
- Production is mainly in Europe, currently at demo scale, large scale production expected for 2025

2,5-Furandicarboxylic acid (2,5-FDCA), feedstock: fructose

- Most important application as a building block for the production of bio-based polyesters, polyamides, and polyurethanes
- Can potentially replace several chemicals as terephthalic acid (TPA), bisphenol A, adipic acid and phthalic anhydride
- Strong potential to be used in the production of solvents especially novel solvents
- Production is mainly in Europe, currently at demo scale, large scale production expected for 2023

Bio-based Polymers

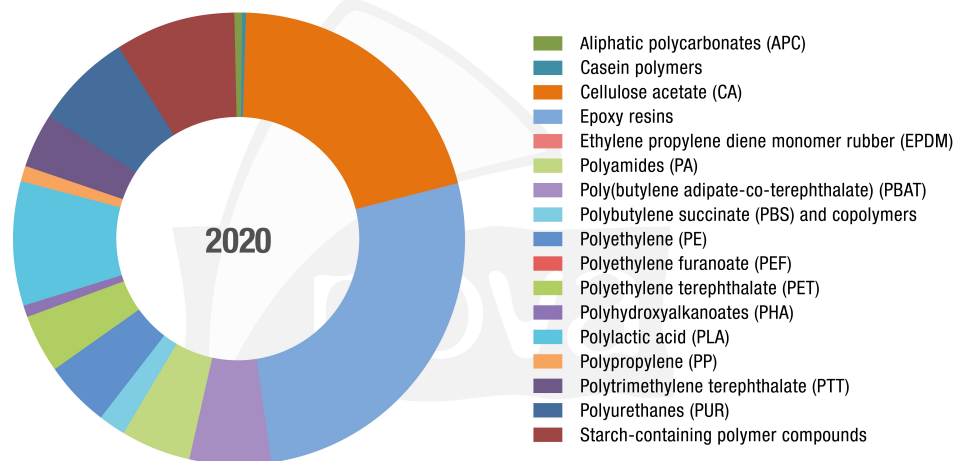
Polymers worldwide, bio-based shares (2018-2020)



Sources: ¹ Plastics Europe; ² International Rubber Study Group (IRSG); ³ The Fiber Year 2020; ⁴ Calculations by nova-Institute based on different company and industry reports; ⁵ Calculations by nova-Institute based on CEPI, FAOSTAT, Starch Europe; ⁶ Calculations by nova-Institute based on different industry reports; ⁷ nova-Institute: Bio-based Building Blocks and Polymers – Global Capacities, Production and Trends 2020–2025, www.bio-based.eu/reports

Shares of bio-based polymers production capacities 2020

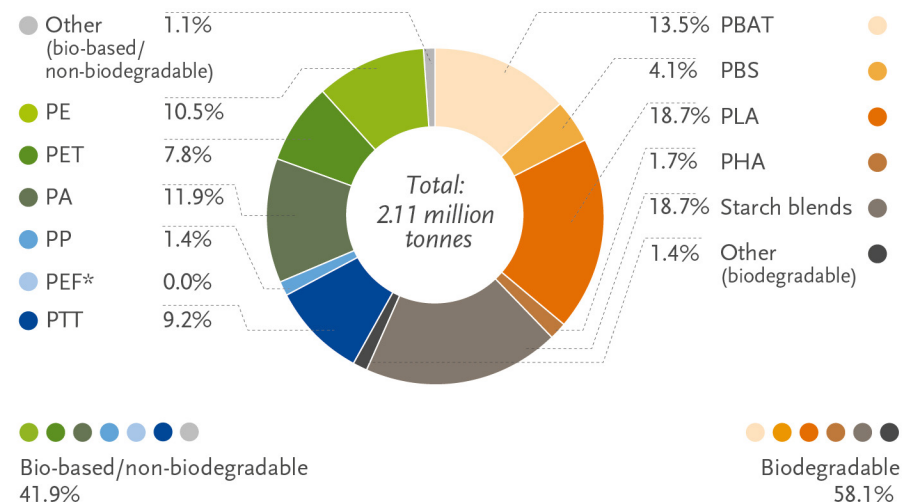
Total production capacity of 4.6 million tonnes



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Global production capacities of bioplastics 2020 (by material type)



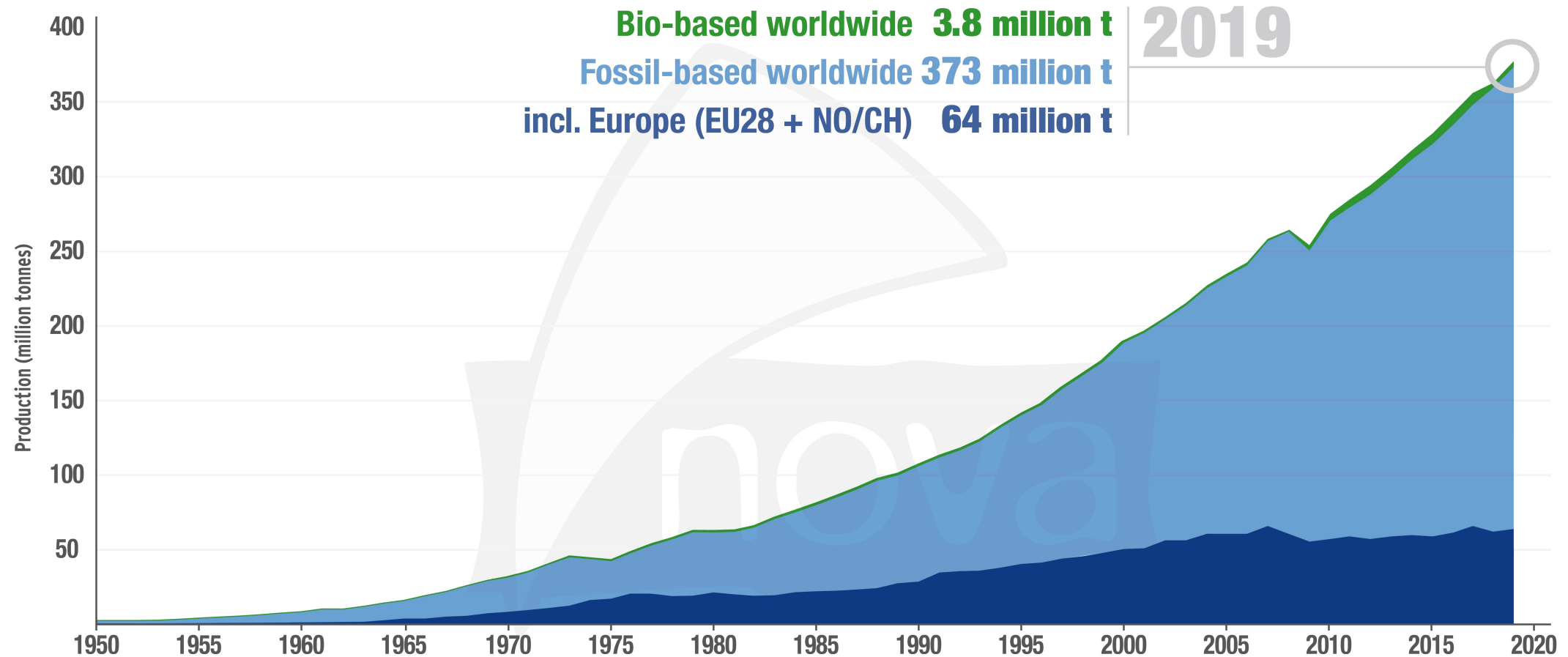
*PEF is currently in development and predicted to be available in commercial scale in 2023.

Source: European Bioplastics, nova-Institute (2020)

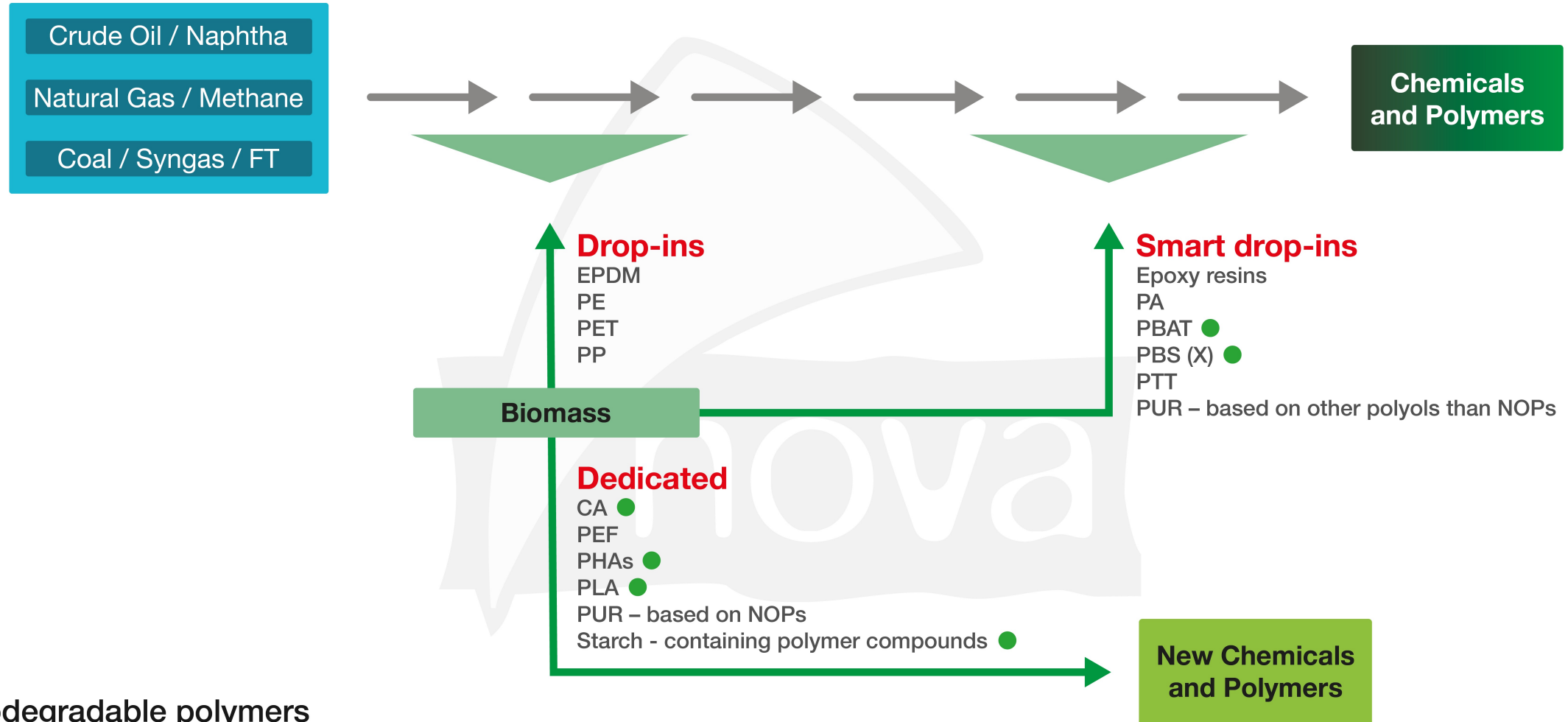
More information: www.european-bioplastics.org/market and www.bio-based.eu/markets

EUBP data does not include aliphatic polycarbonates (APC), casein polymers, cellulose acetate, epoxy resins, ethylene propylene diene monomer rubber (EPDM) and polyurethanes (PUR).

Plastics production from 1950 to 2019

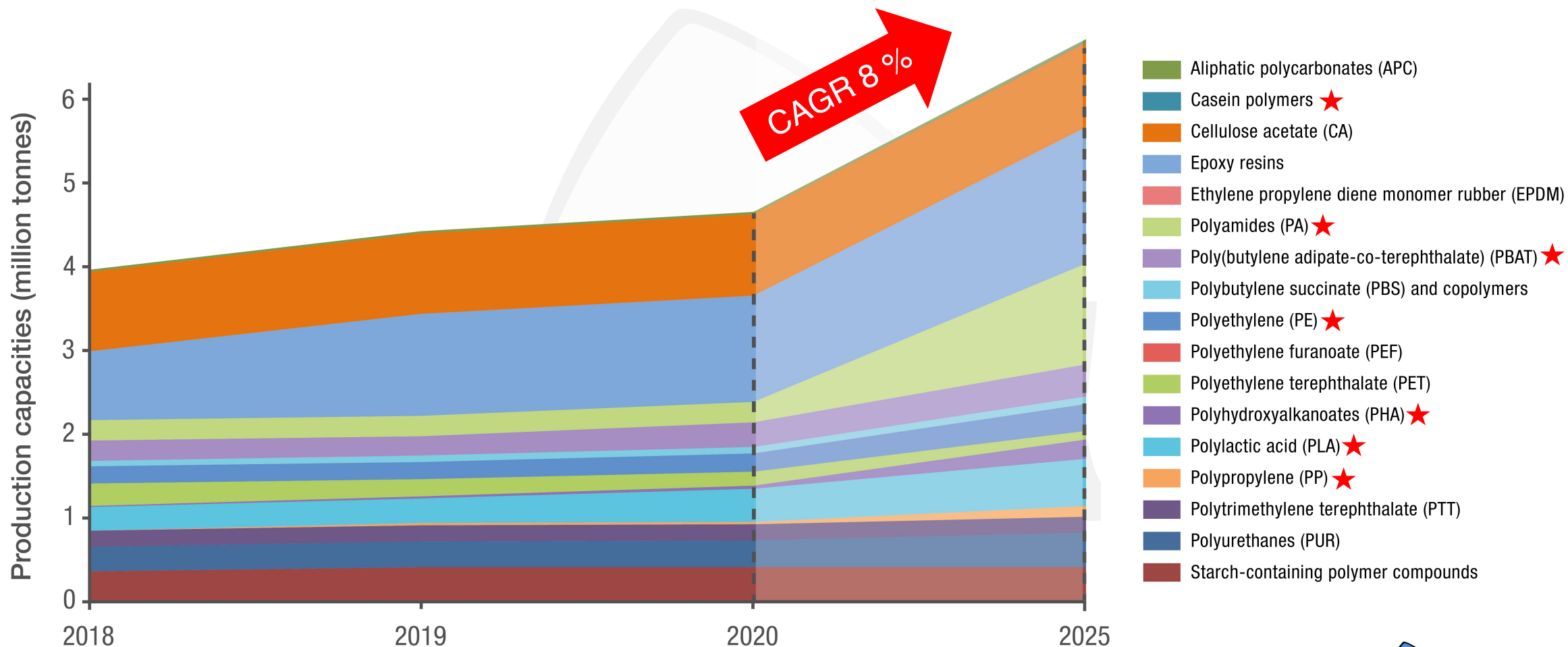


Schematic differentiation of pathways of drop-in, smart drop-in and dedicated bio-based chemicals and polymers



Bio-based polymers

Evolution of worldwide production capacities from 2018 to 2025



	2019	2020
Capacity	4.4 million tonnes	4.6 million tonnes
Production	3.9 million tonnes	4.2 million tonnes

Increase in production capacity of 229,000 tonnes from 2019 to 2020

- Asian expansion of **epoxy resin** production
- Increase in Asian capacity for **poly(butylene adipate-co- terephthalate) (PBAT)** and **polybutylene succinate (PBS)**
- European production increase for **polyethylene (PE)** and **polypropylene (PP)**
- Worldwide **PHA** capacity increase
- Asian expansion in **PLA** capacity

	2020	2025
Capacity	4.6 million tonnes	6.7 million tonnes

Main drivers for capacity increase to 2025:

- **Casein polymers**
- **Polyamides (PA)**
- **Poly(butylene adipate-co- terephthalate) (PBAT)**
- **Polyethylene (PE)**
- **Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA)**
- **Polylactic acid (PLA)**
- **Polypropylene (PP)**

Peak capacity and production 2013 to 2016: 650,000 t/a

- Mainly based on the Plant PET Technology Collaborative (PTC) initiative launched by The Coca Cola Company

Significant decrease in actual production 2016 to 2020: 165,000 t/a

- Operation rate for PET production is at 10 %, at least for 2 producers disclosing their production
- Annual decrease of 15 % of the production is estimated by the end of 2025
- Coca Cola, the main customer of bio-based PET, decided to not further use this bio-based alternative on large scale – all expansion plans were stopped (originally up to 7 Million t).
 - Decision of Coca Cola was due to low crude oil prices together with high production costs of MEG
 - The marketing effects of the GreenBottle were far less than expected (wrong product)
 - Major bio-based MEG producer is India glycols

Worldwide PLA capacities

2011–2025

(example)

Table 36: Worldwide production capacities of Polylactic acid (PLA) in 2011 - 2025 (in tonnes)

Lines highlighted in gray indicate that capacities are installed but no information on volume is known.

Company	Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2025
BECA Biochemical & GALACTIC Lactic Acid Co., Ltd.	Bengbu (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	50,000
Chengdu Dikang Biomedical Co., Ltd.	Chengdu (China)	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	1,000	1,000
Corbion	Georgia (United States)	0	0	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Corbion	Gorinchem (The Netherlands)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
DIC Corp.	Tokyo (Japan)	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Fulero	Excelsartles (Belgium)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Guangzhou Bioplus Materials Technology Co., Ltd.	Guangzhou (China)									10,000	10,000	10,000
Henan Jindan Lactic Acid Technology Co., Ltd.	Diancheng (China)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Henan Pleson Group Co., Ltd.	Changyuan (China)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	10,000	10,000
Hitech Plant Technologies Ltd.	Kudamatsu (Japan)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Jilin COFCO Biomedical Corporation	Changchun (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Musashino Chemical Laboratory, Ltd.	Nanchang (China)											
Nantong Jiaxing Biological Engineering Co., Ltd.	Rugao (China)	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
NatureWorks LLC	Blair (United States)	140,000	140,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Shanghai Tong-Jie-Liang Biomaterials Co., Ltd.	Shanghai (China)	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000	10,000
Shenzhen Esun Industrial Co., Ltd. (formerly Shenzhen Bright China Industrial Co., Ltd.)	Shenzhen (China)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Shenzhen Guanghua Weiye Industry Co., Ltd.	Shenzhen (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
Sichuan Dikang Sci & Tech Pharmaceutical Industry Co., Ltd.	Sichuan (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Sinopec Group	Yushu (China)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	10,000	10,000
SK Chemicals Co., Ltd.	Suwon (South Korea)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
SPC Biotech Private Ltd.	Hyderabad (India)	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sulzer Chemtech AG	Winterthur (Switzerland)	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
SUPLA Material Technology Co., Ltd.	Suzhou (China)	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Taijin Ltd.	Iwakuni (Japan)	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Taijin Ltd.	Matsuyama (Japan)	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	10,000	10,000
Taijin Ltd.	Osaka (Japan)	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000

Company	Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2025
thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions AG (includes Uhde Inventa-Fischer AG and thyssenkrupp Uhde GmbH)	Berlin (Germany)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions AG (includes Uhde Inventa-Fischer AG and thyssenkrupp Uhde GmbH)	Guben (Germany)	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions AG (includes Uhde Inventa-Fischer AG and thyssenkrupp Uhde GmbH)	unknown (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30,000
Total Corbion	Grandpuits (France)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,000
Total Corbion	Rayong (Thailand)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Toyobo Co., Ltd.	Osaka (Japan)	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Wuhan Sanjiang Space Good Biotech Co., Ltd.	Wuhan (China)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Yunnan Fuli Bio-Material Technology Co., Ltd.	Kunming (China)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Zhejiang Huan Biomaterials Co., Ltd.	Taizhou (China)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Zhejiang Huan Biomaterials Co., Ltd.	Unknown (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	30,000
Zhejiang Youcheng New Materials Co., Ltd.	Chongzuo (China)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
Grand Total		172,827	172,827	183,837	183,837	193,837	203,837	203,837	288,837	298,837	298,137	640,137

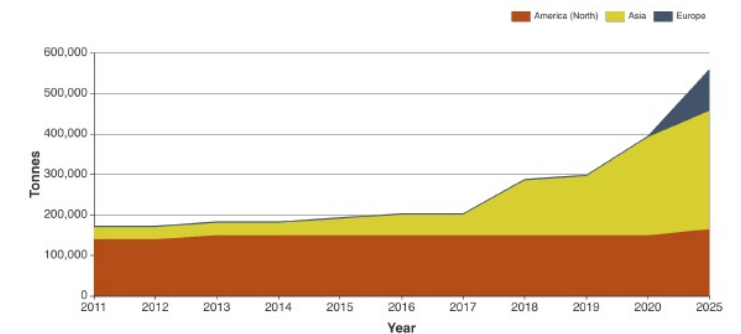


Figure 43: Worldwide production capacities of Polylactic acid (PLA) in 2011 - 2025 (in tonnes)

Company profile (example)

4.99 NatureWorks LLC

Company Profile

NatureWorks LLC was established in 1989 as a 50/50 joint venture of Dow Chemical Co. and Cargill and is located in Minnetonka, USA. NatureWorks LLC is the leading company in polylactic acid (PLA) production. In 2004, Dow Chemical Co. left NatureWorks LLC. In 2007, Teijin Ltd. entered as a new partner but left in 2009.

In 2011, PTT Global Chemical invested \$ 150 million in NatureWorks LLC in anticipation of NatureWorks LLC building a new production line in Thailand for start up in 2015.

In 2013, NatureWorks LLC announced that the company has located its first Asia Pacific regional headquarters in Bangkok and has expanded its team of senior commercial, managerial and technical personnel to enhance support of polylactic acid customers throughout the region and to expand business. The tactics of NatureWorks LLC were initially to produce PLA as a compostable plastic for disposable, one-time-use applications, such as packaging films and bottles, as well as homecare products. Their longer-term strategy is to move more and more into durable applications, like fibres & fabrics, automotive, and consumer electronics. NatureWorks LLC produces their PLA (Ingeo®) in Blair, Nebraska (USA) in a plant with a current name plate capacity of 150,000 t/a. In order to establish a market for their PLA grades, they offer PLA at price levels as low as € 2/kg or even lower for preferred customers. Prices as low as € 1.25/kg have been found in Europe. NatureWorks LLC makes quite an effort to develop the PLA market for fibres and already moves an estimated 40,000 t/a of PLA (2016) into this market. Most of it went into non-wovens, but newer grades also show progress in woven fabrics and in 3D printing. In 2017, NatureWorks LLC licensed Plastica's Optipure® D-Lactic acid process technology to expand its Ingeo® product portfolio. NatureWorks LLC created a Vercet Technology for lactide and lactide-based performance materials.

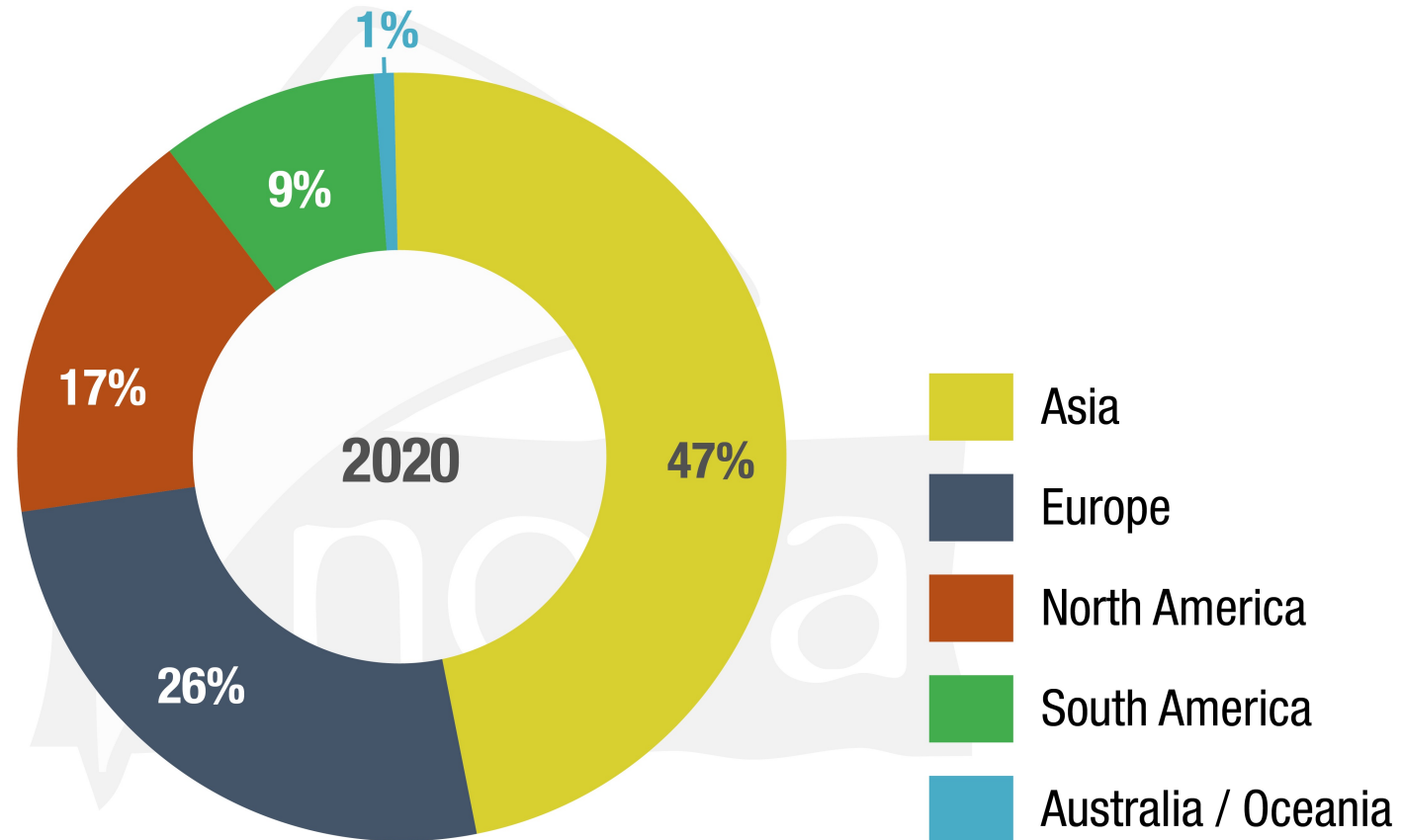
Products included in this report, worldwide production capacities in 2011 - 2025 (in tonnes)

Lines highlighted in gray indicate that capacities are installed but no information on volume is known.

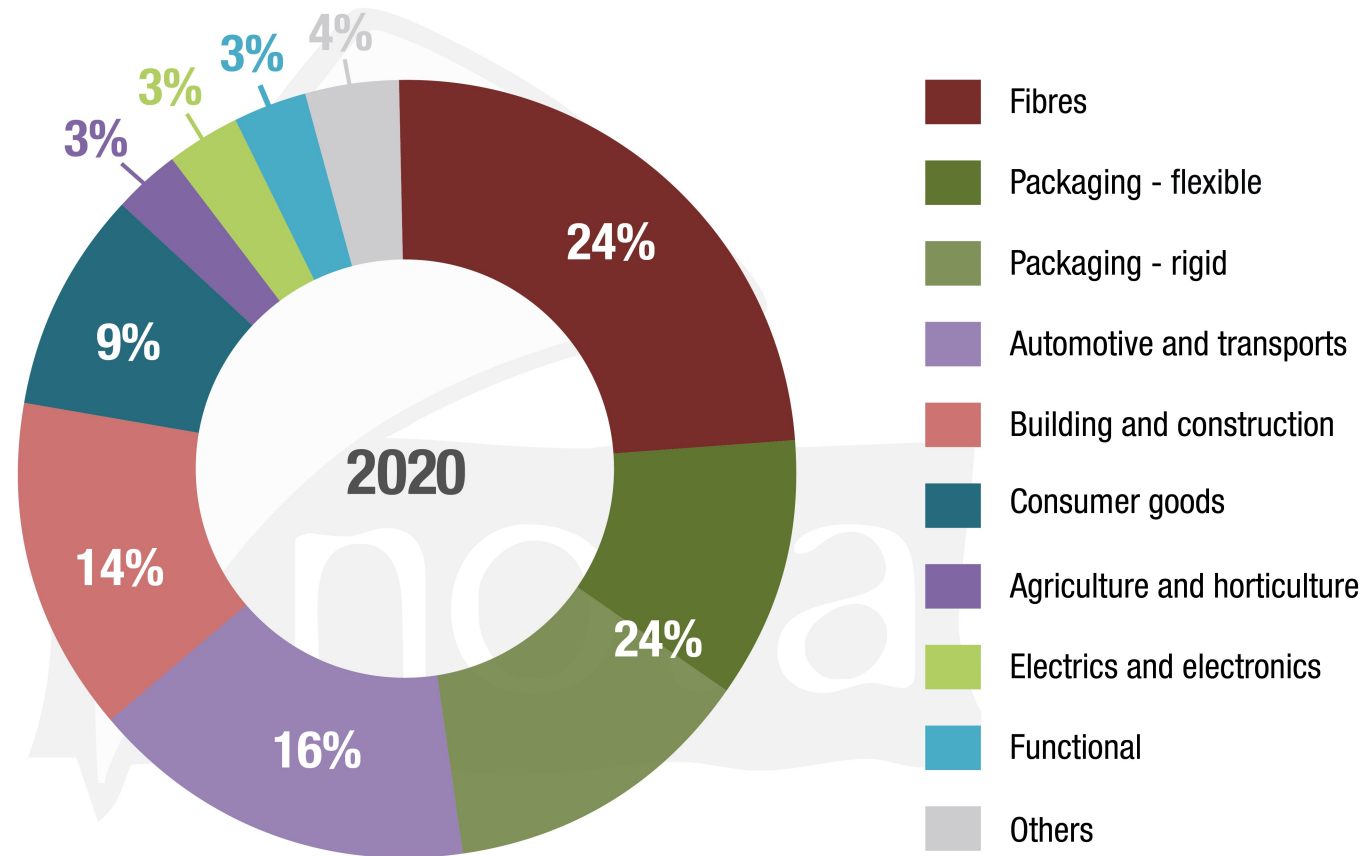
Product	Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2025
Lactic acid L-lactic acid (L-LA)	Blair (United States)	0	0	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	198,000
Lactide	Blair (United States)	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	220,000
Polylactic acid (PLA)	Blair (United States)	140,000	140,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	166,000
Grand Total		340,000	340,000	530,000	530,000	530,000	530,000	530,000	530,000	530,000	530,000	583,000

Global production capacities of bio-based polymers per region 2020

without cellulose acetate, epoxy resins and polyurethanes



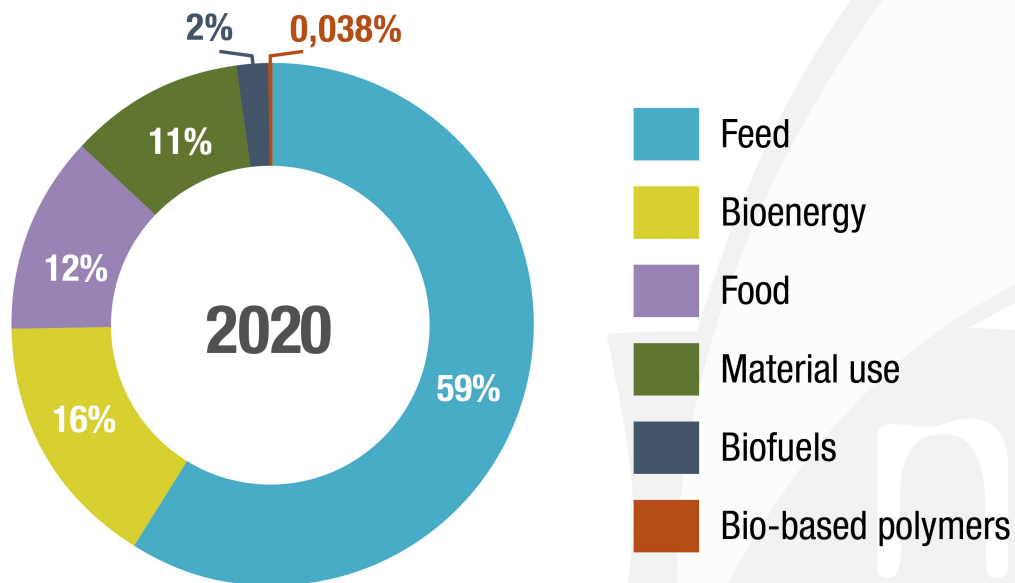
Shares of the produced bio-based polymers in different market segments in 2020



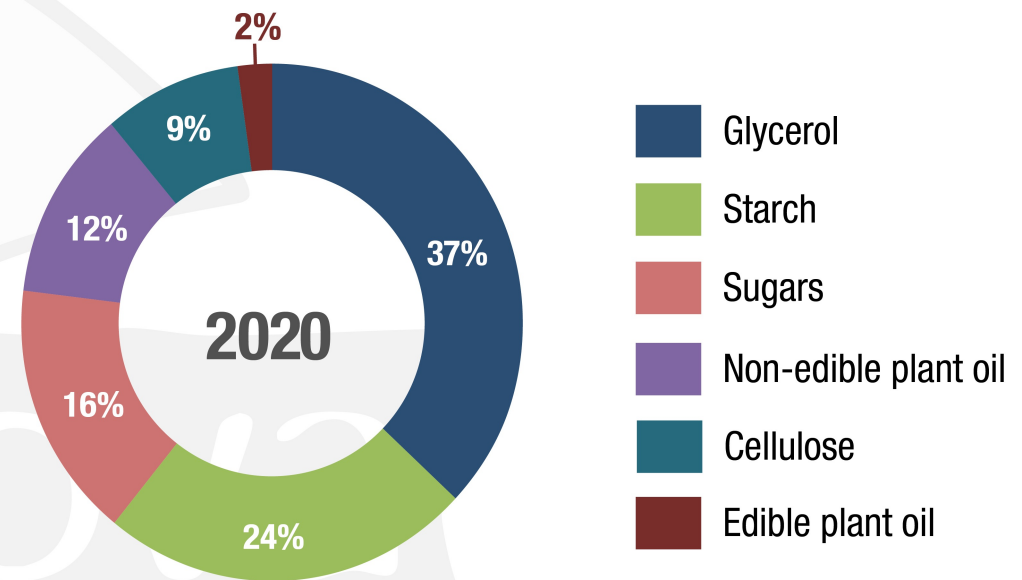
Biomass utilisation worldwide

First and second generation, total and for bio-based polymers

Worldwide biomass demand 2020,
total: 12.54 billion tonnes



4.8 Mt biomass feedstock for 4.0 Mt bio-based polymers
(with a 46 % share) in 2020 – worldwide



The 0.038% share of biomass used to produce bio-based polymers translates into an area share of only 0.006%. This is due to various factors: high-yielding crops (like maize) are used for the production of bio-based polymers leading to a high area efficiency; the yields are not only used for polymer production but also for animal feed (the protein share) and thus only a part is allocated; and finally, because the biomass is a process by-product that uses no land (such as glycerol).

- The complete substitution of fossil carbon with **renewable carbon** from alternative sources: biomass, CO₂ and recycling is the way for **polymers, plastics and chemicals to become sustainable, climate-friendly and part of the circular economy**
- This necessary transition is already on the strategic agenda of several global brands, that are already expanding their feedstock portfolio to include, next to fossil-based, all three sources of renewable carbon
- This rethinking from the market point of view, especially in the use of biomass, will, and already did, increase the supply of bio-based as well as biodegradable polymers

No political reward of the two major advantages of bio-based polymers:

1) Replacement of fossil carbon in the production process with renewable carbon from biomass

- This is indispensable for a sustainable, climate-friendly plastics industry and is not yet politically rewarded

2) Biodegradability

- More than half of the produced bio-based polymers are biodegradable (depending on the environment)
- Solution for plastics that cannot be collected and enter the environment
- Can biodegrade without leaving behind microplastics
- Only a few countries such as Italy, France and probably Spain will politically support this additional disposal path

The most important market drivers in 2018 and 2019:

- Brands that want to offer their customers environmentally friendly solutions and critical consumers looking for alternatives to petrochemicals

Future scenarios for a supportive, positive development of bio-based polymers:

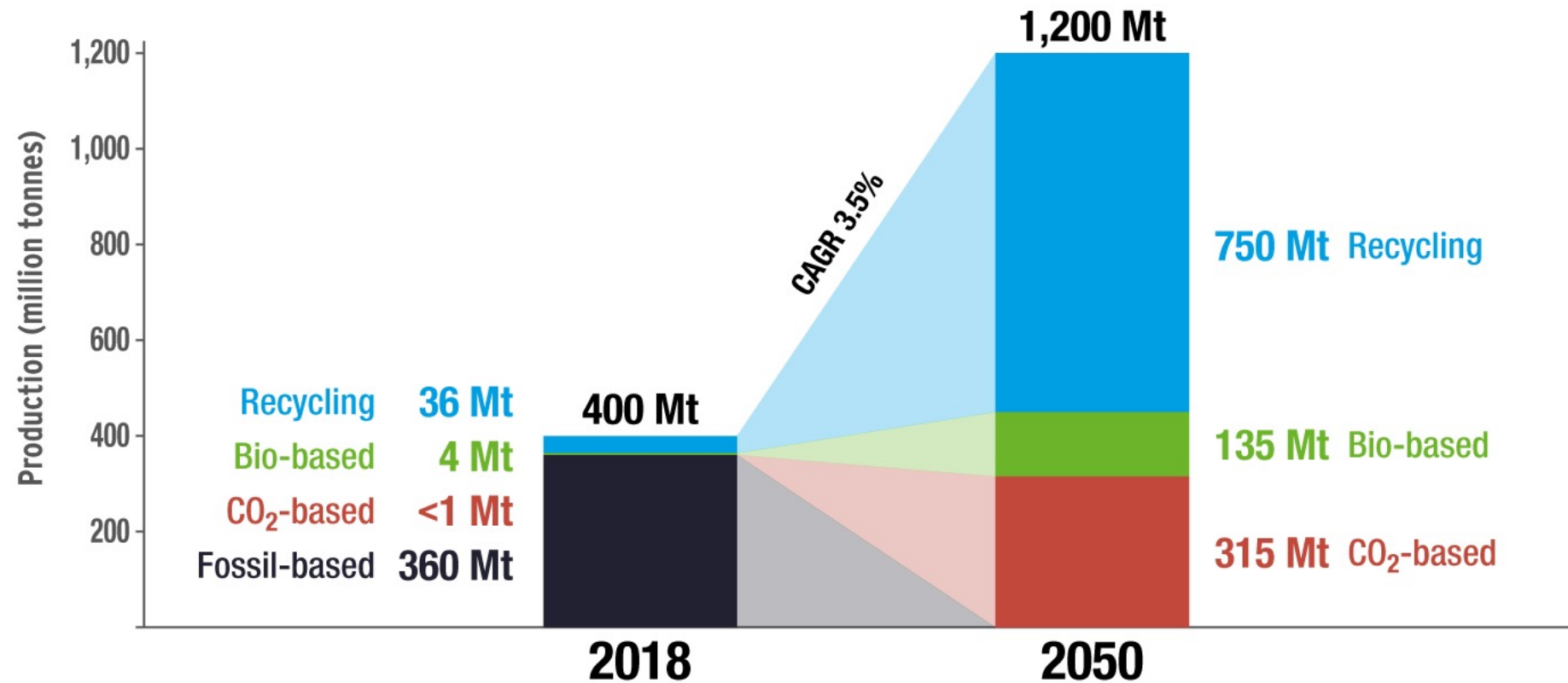
Political support

- If bio-based polymers were to be accepted as a solution and promoted in a similar way as biofuels, annual growth rates of 10 to 20 % could be expected

Crude oil price

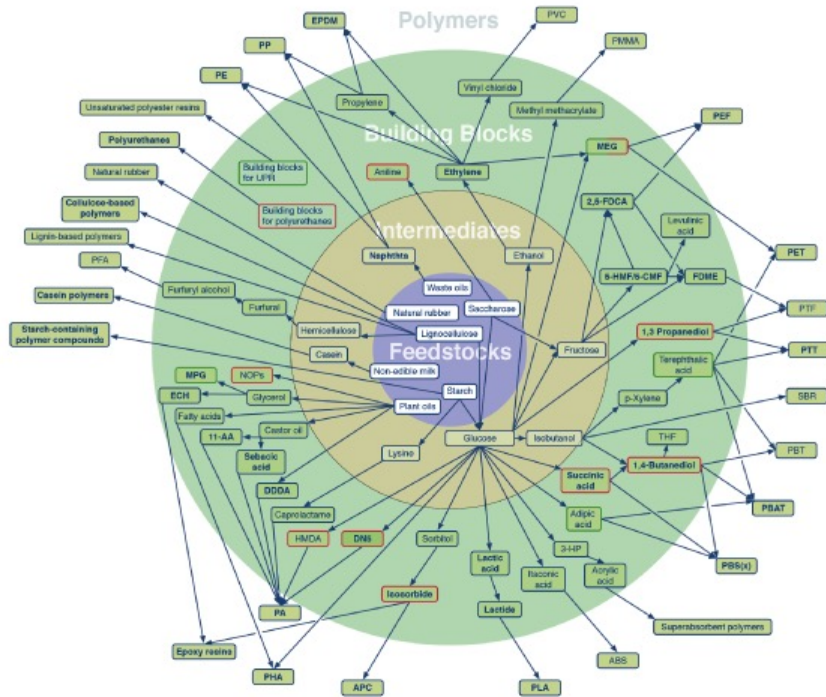
- Same growth rates could be expected should the price of oil rise significantly
- Based on the already existing technical maturity of bio-based polymers, considerable market shares could be gained in these cases

World Plastic Production and Carbon Feedstock in 2018 and Scenario for 2050 (in Million Tonnes)



The virgin plastic production of 364 Million t in 2018 will increase to 450 Million t in 2050, completely based on renewable carbon. The total demand for plastics of 1,200 Million t in 2050 will be mainly covered by recycling.

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Authors: Pia Skoczinski, Michael Carus, Doris de Guzman,
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Conference on
CO₂-based Fuels
& Chemicals **2022**
23–24 March • Hybrid Event



10–12 May
Hybrid Event

Contact: Mr. Dominik Vogt, +49 (0) 2233 48 14 49, dominik.vogt@nova-institut.de

All conferences at renewable-carbon.eu/events

9 Sessions, 18 Presentations

Join Free Webinars on Markets and Strategies for Renewable Chemicals and Materials

11 – 22 October 2021

Hosted by nova-Institute and Wageningen University & Research



Monday, 11 October 2021

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 14:00 – 15:30 CET | 01 The Renewable Carbon Vision |
| 15:30 – 17:00 CET | 02 Carbon Flows for Chemicals and Derived Materials and Carbon Management |

Thursday, 14 October 2021

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 14:00 – 15:30 CET | 03 Technologies, Markets and Trends for “CO ₂ -based Products” |
| 15:30 – 17:00 CET | 04 Technologies, Markets and Policies on “Chemical Recycling” |

Tuesday, 19 October 2021

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 13:00 – 14:30 CET | 05 Future of Refineries and Chemical Verbund Sites |
| 14:30 – 16:00 CET | 06 Circular & Plastic Policy |
| 16:00 – 17:30 CET | 07 Production Capacities, Markets and Trends for “Bio-based Building Blocks & Polymers” |

Friday, 22 October 2021

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 14:00 – 15:30 CET | 08 Food vs. Non-Food Crops for Industry |
| 15:30 – 17:00 CET | 09 Useful Applications of Biodegradable Plastics |

Where:

Online via Zoom

Link to join Webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89492719676>

Thank you for your attention!



Sustainability

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Sustainability assessment / LCA

Chemicals, building blocks & polymers

Material Science

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