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Nanotechnology is one of the most promising scientific fields of research in recent decades; it could revolutionize the global food system. The demand for safe food products is a major challenge for the food packaging industry with the idea of developing and producing new packaging solutions that can maintain the safety and quality of products. This chapter discusses some of the most pressing applications and problems of nanotechnology in food packaging, including nanocomposites, which enhance the barrier properties of packaging film, nanoparticles as powerful antimicrobials, controlled delivery nanosystems, and nanomaterials and nanoanalytical analyses to detect food-related analytes (small organic molecules). Problems in assessing risks and safety in food research were also highlighted. As nanotechnology is still a relatively new technology, there are security issues that draw attention to international norms to make it safer for industry and consumers to adopt the tool. The background work of the entry of PDFNanotechnology has evolved into an interdisciplinary field of applied science and technology. Nanotechnology is the ability to work on a scale of 1 to 100 nm to understand, create, characterize and use material structures, devices and systems with new properties derived from their nanostructures. Because of their size, nanoparticles have a proportionately larger surface area and therefore more surface atoms than their micro-scale counterpart. In the nanoscale range, materials can represent a variety of electronic properties, which in turn affects its optical, catalytic and other reactive properties. Nanotechnology currently uses two construction strategies: the top-down approach and the bottom-up approach. Commercial nanomaterial production now involves a largely top-down approach, in which nanometric structures are derived from reducing the size of bulk materials through milling, nanolithography or precision engineering. Size usually refers to the functionality of food materials, smaller sizes, meaning a large surface area, preferably for several purposes. On the other hand, the newer bottom-up approach allows the construction of nanostructures from individual atoms or molecules capable of self-assembly. Self-assembly relies on balancing the pull and repulsion of forces between a pair of building block molecules to form more functional supramolecular structures. Currently, most of the materials used for food packaging are virtually undegradable, which is a serious global problem. New bio-materials have been used to develop edible and biodegradable films as a great effort to extend shelf life and improve the quality of food while reducing the reduction of waste. However, the use of edible and biodegradable polymers has been limited due to performance problems (such as fragility, bad gas and vlagobar), processing (e.g. low heat distortion temperature) and cost. Several composites have been developed by adding strengthening compounds to polymers to enhance their thermal, mechanical and barrier properties. Most of these arm materials represent such poor interactions at the junction of both components. Macroscopic strengthening components usually contain defects that become less important because the particles of the strengthening component are smaller. Polymer composites are blends of polymers with inorganic or organic fillers with a certain geometry (fibers, flakes, spheres, particulate matter). The use of fillers that have at least one dimension in the nanometric range (nanoparticles) produces polymer nanocomposites (PNC). There are three types of fillers, depending on how many measurements are in the nanometric range. The nanoparticles of measurements, such as spherical silica nanoparticles or semiconductor nanoclusters, have three nanometric measurements. Nanotubes or moustaches are elongated structures in which two measurements are at the nanometer scale and the third is larger. When only one dimension is in the nanometric range, composites are known as polymer-layered crystal nanocomposites, almost exclusively obtained by intercalating the polymer (or monomer subsequently polymerized) inside the galleries of the host's layered crystals. The uniform scattering of nanoparticles leads to a very large matrix/filler of the interfacial region, which changes molecular mobility, relaxation behavior, and subsequent thermal and mechanical properties of the material. Fillers with a high ratio of the greatest to the slightest dimension (i.e. the ratio of the sides) are particularly interesting because of their high specific surface area, providing better enhance effects. In addition to the effects of the nano-forces themselves, the interphase area of altered mobility surrounding each nanoparticle is induced by well-dispersed nanoparticles, which leads to the seepage of the interphase network in the composite and plays an important role in improving nanocomposite properties. In addition to strengthening nanoparticles, whose main role is to improve the mechanical and barrier properties of packaging materials, there are several types of nanostructures responsible for other functions, sometimes providing active or smart properties of the packaging system, such as antimicrobial activity, immobilization of fermentation, and biosensitivity. Functional nanomaterials can extend shelf life, reduce the demand for preservatives and provide sanitary surfaces that are easy to clean and can hinder accumulation or formation Antimicrobial packaging is the most common Nanomaterials. As a simple passive barrier, antimicrobial packaging can reduce the growth of harmful microbes. The inclusion of nanomaterials in the packaging materials of the capsule will provide a light, durable and low-yielding nanocomposite gas, contributing to the quality of food by extending the shelf life, preserving taste and aroma and reducing contact with microorganisms. Encapsulation of products in packaging materials is necessary for transportation, protection, labeling and advertising. In recent years, nanotechnology has found countless applications in the food industry. Food encapsulation requires protection, resistance to falsification and special physical, chemical or biological needs. Packaging encapsulation is essential for preserving food to make them safe and marketable. Innovations in food encapsulation packaging can lead to quality packaging and show consumers a friendly approach in determining shelf life, biodegradable period and other information. Nanotechnology has been used to produce stronger and lighter materials, improve biodegradability or recyclables, incorporate sensors or indicators for consumer information, or for traceability or authentication (product safety to avoid fraud). Nanotechnology may also pose new risks as a result of their new properties using a wide range of nanomaterials (NM), and many of them may well be harmless; however, others may pose a risk to human health. Many countries recognize the need for food safety for nanomaterials, existing limited data and information on their possible health effects. For this reason, numerous nanotechnology initiatives, commissions or centres have been launched by governments, academia and the private sector around the world to ensure the rapid development of nanotechnology, promote economic growth, maintain global competitiveness and enhance innovation potential. Overall though, these new technologies, if managed and regulated correctly, can play an important role in improving the global food system for the benefit of human health and well-being. This chapter will lead to a final, comprehensive assessment of existing and upcoming applications of nanotechnology in the food packaging sector. Nanostructured materials have unique physical and chemical properties that open up opportunities to create new and high-performance materials that will have a decisive impact on food packaging and storage. The most studied nanoparticles will be presented in accordance with their main functions/apps in food packaging systems. Some may have multiple applications, and sometimes applications may overlap, such as some immobilized enzymes that may act as antimicrobial components, oxygen scavengers and/or biosensors. However, trends in food packaging The following basic applications (Figure 1): (1) Nanoreinforcement: the presence of nanoparticles in the polymer matrix can significantly enhance the properties of packaging (flexibility, gas barrier properties, temperature/moisture stability) and thereby improve the shelf life of packaged foods; (2) Active food nanosystem packaging: the presence of nanoparticles allows packaging to interact with food and the environment and play a dynamic role in food conservation; (3) Intelligent food nanosystem packaging: includes the presence of nanodevices in a polymer matrix designed to probe biochemical or microbial changes in food and/or monitor the environment surrounding food. They can also act as protection against fraudulent imitation. Fig. 1 Trends in food packaging using nanotechnology Ability to improve the characteristics of polymers for food packaging by adding nanoparticles led to the development of various polymer nanomaterials. Nanoreinforcement techniques are used to improve viability and durability by filling gaps in packaging materials. This has led to the development of various nanoparticles of reinforced polymers, also called nanocomposites, which usually contain up to 5% of the w/ in nanoparticles. The improved barrier properties of most polymer nanocomposites use improved peat diffusion or gas permeation. These wall-like nanocomposites cause gases to pass longer paths to dissipate through the coatings. The presence of nanoparticles with high side ratios in the package drastically reduces the rate of transmission of gases such as oxygen, carbon dioxide and water vapor crossing the packets. The nanoparticles within the polymer nanocomposites can also bring many active areas with better amplifying effects. In addition, the variety or change in the size and quantity of nanoparticles per unit of polymer volume will have a significant impact on the properties of polymers. Although several nanoparticles have been recognized as possible additives to improve the performance of polymers, the packaging industry has focused mainly on layered inorganic solids such as clay and silicates, due to their availability, low cost, significant improvements and relative simplicity of processability. Polymers, which include clay nanoparticles, are among the first polymer nanomaterials to be marketed as improved materials for food packaging. Several different polymers and clay fillers can be used to produce clay-polymer nanomaterials. Nanoclay is commonly used by Montmorillonite (MMT), which is a relatively cheap and widely available natural clay derived from volcanic ash/rocks. When well dispersed in the matrix, the clay limits gases and provides significant improvement mainly in the properties of the barrier gas barrier The homogeneous scattering of most clays in organic polymers is not so easy because of its hydrophilic surface. Organoclay, products from interactions between clay minerals and organic compounds, have found important applications in polymer nanocomposites. Organoclay is cheaper than most other nanomaterials because they come from readily



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