

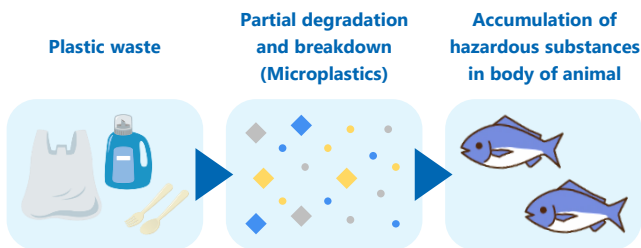


Environmental Vision 2050—Harmony with nature and society (3)

This issue explains "**Promote the development and production of biodegradable and biomass materials to help maintain ecosystems**", one of the initiatives for "Harmony with nature and society" in the Environmental Vision 2050.

Biodegradable material

Plastics are used in various fields, however, ordinary plastics are not decomposed completely in the natural environment such as the ocean and pollute the environment. Furthermore, there are concerns about the accumulation of hazardous substances in the bodies of animals that have taken microplastics in.



Biodegradable plastic is a material that can be decomposed into carbon dioxide and water by microorganisms in soil or water, and is attracting attention as a solution to the plastic waste problem. The Oji Group is working to develop composite materials of biodegradable plastics and pulp, and biodegradable plastics made from wood.

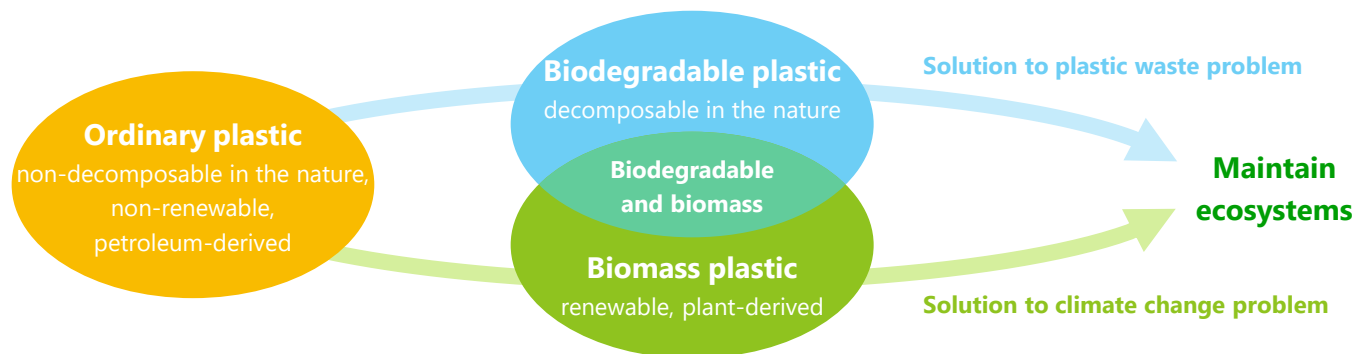
Biomass material

Ordinary plastics are mainly made from non-renewable petroleum-derived materials, which emit CO₂ when incinerated. Biomass materials including biomass plastics are made from renewable plant-derived materials. Because the absorption of CO₂ during plant growth offsets the emissions during incineration, biomass materials are attracting attention as a solution to the climate change problem.

As explained in the September issue, climate change is damaging biodiversity.



Conventional biomass plastics have been made from sugarcane and corn, edible plants, which may compete with food production. The Oji Group is working to develop biomass plastics made from wood, an inedible plant. In addition, the Oji Group is working to develop alternative materials that will enable us to shift from plastic containers and packaging to paper.



Details of development of eco-friendly materials and products
<https://ojiholdings.disclosure.site/en/themes/133/>



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