

Chapter

Chitosan and Nanotechnology Fundamentals

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The process of deacetylation transforms chitin into chitosan, a biopolymer that exhibits exceptional biocompatibility, biodegradability and flexibility. Particularly at the nanoscale, chitosan exhibits compelling functionalities that confer suitability for diverse nanotechnology applications. In this chapter, we comprehensively explore the fundamental properties of chitosan, emphasising its critical role in nanotechnology integration, notably within aquaculture and fisheries. Nanonisation of chitosan significantly amplifies its potential with expanded applications in drug delivery, vaccination and water treatment in aquaculture practice. Nanochitosan integration addresses critical challenges in the fishing sector while aligning seamlessly with Sustainable Development Goal 14, fostering sustainable aquaculture practices. With recent advances in the techniques used in nanotechnology for modifying chitosan, the practice can become more sustainable, reducing waste and promoting efficient utilisation of resources. This holds great promise for establishing environmentally conscious processes within the realm of nanochitosan applications.

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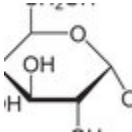
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