

## Glossary

**Archaeobacteria:** or archaeans, are single-celled prokaryotes. They have a unique type of rRNA that sets them apart from their fellow prokaryotes. Archaeobacteria are considered extremophiles because they live in a variety of harsh environments and can tolerate extreme conditions such as, acidity and salinity.

**Cellulose:** Cellulose is a polysaccharide consisting of a linear chain of several hundred to many thousands of  $\beta$  linked D-glucose units. This is the back bone of all plant cell walls.

**Ciguatera toxin:** *Ciguatera* is a foodborne illness caused by eating certain reef fish whose flesh is contaminated with a *toxin* made by dinoflagellates such as *Gambierdiscus*.

**Equilibrium Relative Humidity (ERH):** Moisture migration from a material into the atmosphere and vice versa continues until equilibrium of the vapour pressures of water (inside the material and in the atmosphere) is reached. Such a equilibrium is known as **Equilibrium Relative Humidity (ERH)**.

**Lactobacillus:** Lactobacillus is a genus of Gram-positive, facultative anaerobic or microaerophilic, rod-shaped, non-spore-forming bacteria. These are common organisms used in the preparation of curds, yogurt etc.

**Lipolytic enzymes:** A major group of enzymes which break down lipids. Which means fats and oils.

*Nausea:* is a sensation of unease and discomfort in the upper stomach with an involuntary urge to vomit.

**Norovirus:** Norovirus infection can cause the sudden onset of severe vomiting and diarrhea. The virus is highly contagious and commonly spread through food or water that is contaminated during preparation or contaminated surfaces. You can also be infected through close contact with an infected person.

**Pectin:** Pectins, also known as pectic polysaccharides, is a complex polysaccharide and are rich in galacturonic acid. Several distinct polysaccharides have been identified and characterised within the pectic group where along with glucuronic acids sugars like, rhamanose, arabinose and xylose forms a part of the complex. This is the main cementing compound in a cell wall It commonly used in jams and jellies for setting.

**Relative humidity:** the amount of water vapor present in air expressed as a percentage of the amount needed for saturation at the same temperature.

**Rotavirus:** Rotavirus is the most common cause of diarrheal disease among infants and young children. It is a genus of double-stranded RNA viruses.

**Scombroid toxin:** **Scombroid** food poisoning is a foodborne illness that results from eating spoiled (decayed) fish. The toxin believed to be responsible is histamine, formed as the flesh of the fish begins to decay.

**Shellfish toxins:** *Shellfish poisoning* is a general term used to indicate *poisoning* that occurs when *shellfish* (mainly oysters, clams, scallops or mussels) are eaten by humans. The toxins can accumulate in many different types of shellfish because the shellfish are filter-feeders and consume marine diatoms and algae that may contain the chemicals.

**Systemic fish toxins:** *Toxic* substance (such as mercury) that accumulate in the fish due to water contamination.