

OBJECTIVE

Carbohydrates are the most widely distributed and prominent constituent of plants in terms of composition. Carbohydrates are the major nutrient consumed for energy from food. In plants, carbohydrates are synthesized by photosynthesis. They are found in numerous forms some of which are non-digestible in humans but still have a major role in imparting long term health. Chemically, they have many different molecular structures, sizes, and shapes, and exhibit a variety of properties (chemical and physical). The study of these properties is an important aspect in understanding food systems as well as in food processing and development.