

Ionic liquids: Green solvent for pretreatment of lignocellulosic biomass

Abstract

Green technology has become the primary concern of nations around the world. In-line with this concern, lignocellulosic biomass is often advocated as significant starting material for a greener production. However, the current biomass conversion cannot be considered as green due to the use of acid or alkaline during its pretreatment. An introduction of ionic liquids (ILs) as replacement of acids or alkaline for the pretreatment of lingo-cellulosic materials is gaining interest due to their minimal waste, nonvolatility and low toxicity and therefore considered green. This paper discusses the benefits of ILs as a green solvent for pretreatment of lignocellulosic biomass.

Keywords

Environment; Green technology; Ionic liquids; Lignocellulosic biomass