

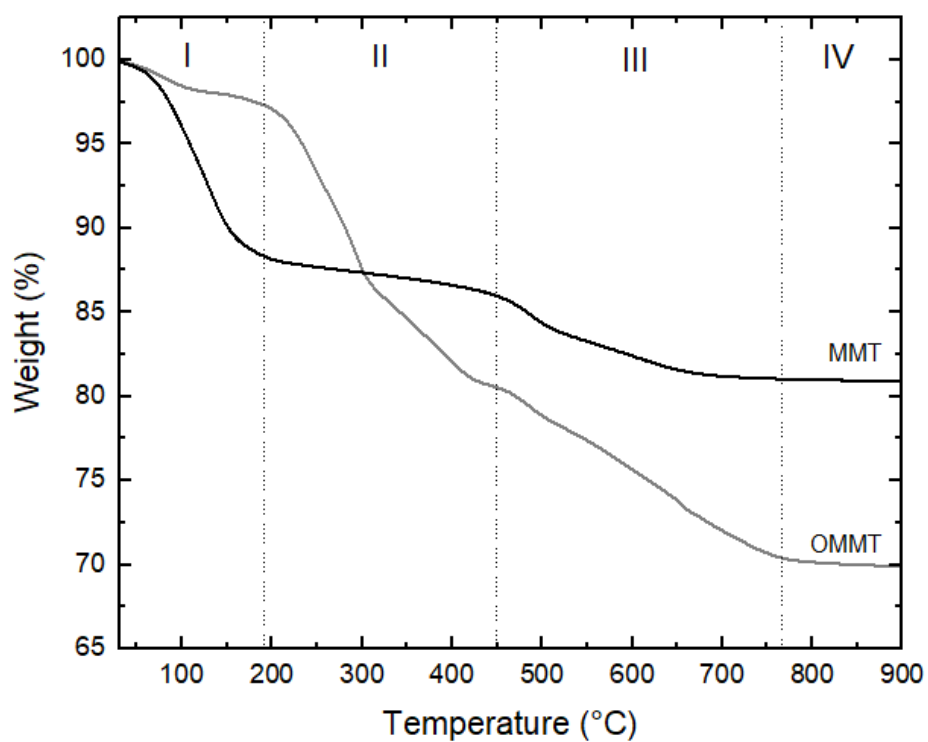
# Supplementary Information

## Biodegradable nanocomposite microcapsules for controlled release of urea

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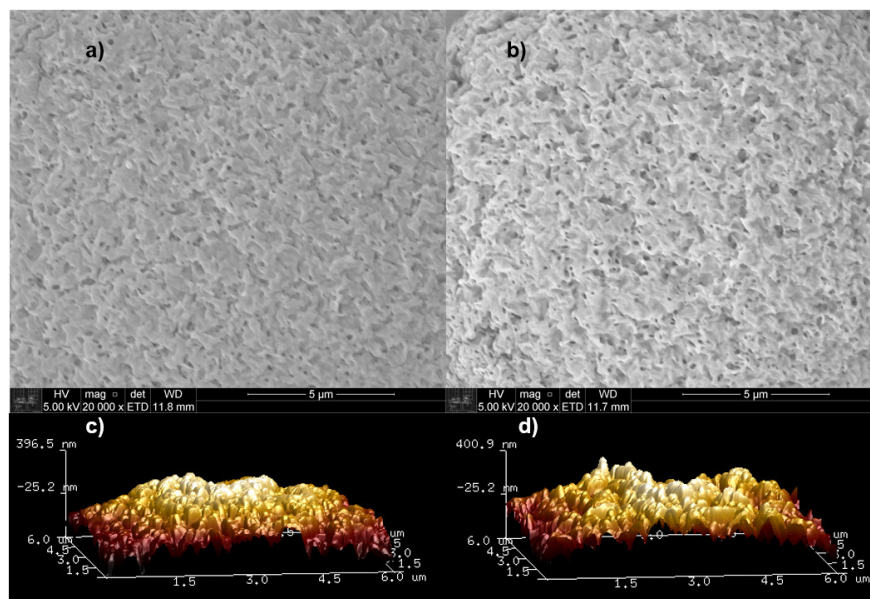
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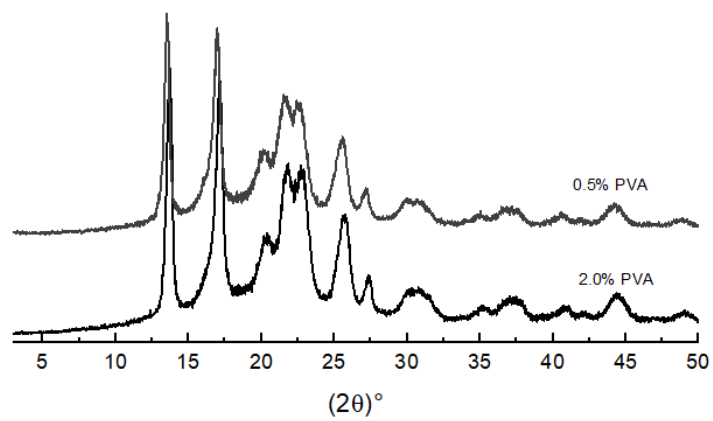
**Figure S1.** Thermogravimetric curves of MMT and OMMT samples.

**Table S1.** FTIR OMMT and MMT clays.

MMT	OMMT	Smectite	Kaolinite
693	693	Vibration of Si-O-Mg and Si-O-Mg bonds	-
815	815	Diocahedral clays – Mg-Al-OH bending	-
915	915	Al-Al-OH deformation	OH deformation of inner hydroxyl groups
1,026	1,026	Stretching of bonds Si-O	-
1,108	1,108	Stretching of bonds Si-O	-
1,600	1,600	Vibration of O-H water molecules	OH deformation of water
-	2,838	scissor vibrations of C-H3 bonds	-
-	2,931	stretching of CH bonds	-
3,659	3,659	-	OH stretching of inner surface hydroxyl groups



**Figure S2.** SEM micrograph of microcapsules of PHB made with a) 0.5% and b) 2.0% of PVA. AFM micrograph of microcapsules of PHB made with (a) 0.5 and (b) 2.0% of PVA.



**Figure S3.** XRD pattern of PHB microcapsules made with 0.5% and 2.0%