

## **superabsorbent polymer**

Polymer that can absorb and retain extremely large amounts of a liquid relative to its own mass.

Notes:

1. The liquid absorbed can be water or an organic liquid.
2. The swelling ratio of a superabsorbent polymer can reach the order of 1000:1.
3. Superabsorbent polymers for water are frequently polyelectrolytes.

**Source:**

PAC, 2004, 76, 889 (*Definitions of terms relating to reactions of polymers and to functional polymeric materials (IUPAC Recommendations 2003)*) on page 903