

Phosphorus: How is it stored and transported?

Phosphorus is the second most abundant element in the earth's crust. It is found in many rocks, but is not as soluble as calcium. It is found in the soil as phosphate ions. The most common source of phosphorus is a rock called apatite. Another source is phosphate rock. When plants take up phosphorus they use the nutrient stored in their roots and produce phosphate ions.

Plants and animals store phosphorus in the form of ATP (Adenosine Triphosphate) for energy storage. This molecule is used for many processes including movement. The amount of ATP in a cell is very small.

Animals store phosphorus in the form of ATP. Phosphorus is the only element in the body that is not stored in the form of ATP. It is found in the bones and teeth.

How is phosphorus stored in plants?



(Involvement of water in the synthesis of ATP from ADP and P_i)

ATP

(Involvement of sugar in the synthesis of ATP)

1. What is phosphorus?

2. How is phosphorus stored in plants?

3. How is phosphorus stored in animals?

It is stored in the form of ATP.

4. How is phosphorus stored in the soil?
