

**deoxyribonucleic acids (DNA)**

High molecular weight, linear polymers, composed of *nucleotides* containing deoxyribose and linked by phosphodiester bonds; DNA contain the genetic information of organisms. The double-stranded form consists of a double helix of two complementary chains that run in opposite directions and are held together by hydrogen bonds between pairs of the complementary nucleotides and Hoogsteen (stacking) forces.

1992, 64, 151