

Survey and Herbarium Specimens of Medicinal Vascular Flora of Doi Chiang Dao

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ABSTRACT

The herbarium in September 1990 included over 9,210 specimens from 226 families (270 fam. in the world) in medicinal plant herbarium, Faculty of Pharmacy, CMU. From January 1989 to September 1990, a total of 821 species had been collected from Doi Chiang Dao wildlife sanctuary, some of which are of considerable economic, medicinal and botanical importance. These plants which have been collected belong to 125 plant families. There have been five new plant records for the flora of Thailand and one emended description. Plants found on the limestone cliffs and outcrops differ from the other species and are habitat-specific calciphytes. No difference has been observed between the morphological characteristic found on soils formed from calcareous and granite/shale bedrocks. The lowland up to 850 m. elevation exhibits two basic kinds of forest : deciduous and mixed evergreen/deciduous facies. The deciduous forests, mostly disturbed due to forest exploitation, are varying degrees of evergreen and deciduous species, the latter kind of plants differing from those found in the dipterocarp-oak areas. There is a distinct dry season (December-May) during which many of the deciduous species flower and fruit, many remain leafless. The evergreen species have regular phenologies but this happens throughout the year according to each different species.

This research should be helpful to the interested scientists on Doi Chiang Dao wildlife sanctuary and nearby forested areas.

Key words: Doi Chiang Dao, herbarium specimen, medicinal plants mesem

INTRODUCTION

Doi Chiang Dao wildlife sanctuary is located in Chiang Dao district, Chiang Mai province, Thailand and was established as such by the Royal Forest Department on 24 August 1978. It has an area of 521 km² and includes Doi Chiang Dao, one of Thailand's highest mountains (summit 2,175 m) and by far the largest limestone massif in the kingdom.