

Jitwana Junkhonkaen 2012: Ethnobotany of Ban Bowee, Amphoe Suan Phueng, Changwat Ratchaburi. Master of Science (Economic Botany), Major Field: Economic Botany, Division of Science. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Jitraporn Tawatpun, M.S. 366 pages.

An ethnobotanical Study was conducted to investigate plant utilization by Bhor - Whee community in Tanaosri subdistrict, Suan Phueng district, Ratchaburi province, was carried out by interviewing 5 local herbalists and random interviewing 120 villagers in study area. Plant specimens were collected and identified to species from community forest and homegardens around the villages. The result indicated that 77 families 185 genera 221 species were classified as 170 dicots, 47 monocots, and 4 ferns. They have been used in various way, mostly as medicinal plants (137 species), food (90 species), housing and household (18 species), dyes and clothing materials (10 species), cosmetics (6 species), rituals (6 species) and fuel wood (5 species). The most species were belong to Euphorbiaceae (14 species) and Zingiberaceae (13 species). The 4 species are the most used in many fields, They are *Cocos nucifera* L. var. *nucifera*, *Tamarindus indica* L., *Dioscorea hispida* Dennst. var. *hispida*. and *Musa sapientum* L. When compared the correlation between gender and age that effect on knowledge in using plant for food and medicinal plant, the result showed that female have a tendency to know on plant uses over than male. For using plant in the other side found that, male and female are know on plant uses no different. Considering the age range. Older population had hight significant knowledge on plant uses than the younger population.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature