

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
TABLE OF CONTENTS	i
LIST OF TABLES	ii
LIST OF FIGURES	iv
INTRODUCTION	1
Hypothesis	2
Objectives	2
LITERATURE REVIEW	3
MATERIALS AND METHODS	17
Soil Samples Collection	17
Geological Setting	22
Methods	24
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	27
Soil Characteristics	27
Physical and Chemical Properties	30
Geochemical Properties	32
Extractable Iron	40
Mineralogical Properties	43
Micromorphological Properties	63
Classification	80
CONCLUSIONS	83
LITERATURE CITED	86
APPENDIX	110

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1	Research methods	24
2	Morphology of Thai paddy soils	28
3	Median, minimum and maximum concentrations of elements in paddy soil samples (n=146), mean values for uncontaminated paddy soils, mean values for normal surface soils worldwide and critical concentrations for contaminated soils	35
4	The correlation coefficients for four forms (total, dithionite citrate bicarbonate, oxalate and Na pyrophosphate) of Fe, Al and Mn versus concentrations of elements in whole soils ($p < 0.05$, n=146)	45
5	Mineralogical composition of clay and silt fractions	49
6	Semiquantitative mineralogical composition of the clay fraction of the Thai paddy soils	50
7	The d_{001} spacing for Li saturated and heated (300°C) smectites before and after glycerol solvation	51
8	Interlayer charge characterization of Thai soil smectites determined from the mono/bilayer transition	53
9	Elemental composition of smectites from a Lop Buri soil	54
10	Mineralogy of Thai paddy soils	56
11	Some properties of Thai paddy soil kaolins	56
12	Comparative data for soil kaolins	57
13	Correlation matrix (R values) for properties of kaolin in Thai paddy soils (n =14, $p < 0.01$)	62
14	Mean values (N = 23) of Al/Si and Fe/Si X-ray intensity ratios of single kaolin crystals determined by EDS	63
15	Micromorphology of Thai paddy soils	66

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

Appendix Table		Page
1	Brief description of sampling sites for paddy soils in Thailand	145
2	Chemical and physical properties of Thai paddy soils	147
3	Total chemical composition of Thai paddy soils	152
4	Trace elements of Thai paddy soils (in mg kg ⁻¹ unit)	155
5	Total Fe (Fe _t) and extractable Fe by dithionite citrate bicarbonate (Fe _d), oxalic acid (Fe _o) and Na-pyrophosphate (Fe _p) of whole soil samples of Thai paddy soils	161

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1	Soil sampling sites of the study	18
2	Representative paddy soil profiles in Northeastern Thailand	19
3	Representative paddy soil profiles in Northern Thailand	20
4	Representative paddy soil profiles in Eastern Thailand	21
5	Representative paddy soil profiles in the Central Plain of Thailand	21
6	Textural classes of <2 mm fraction of Thai paddy soils	32
7	Depth functions of physical and chemical properties of Thai paddy soils	33
8	Factor analysis for the chemical composition and some additional properties for whole soil materials (a) distribution of chemical and other soil properties (variables) (b) distribution of soil samples (cases)	36
9	Photograph of a thin section of the 2Btng5 horizon (150-185 cm) of the Kula Ronghai (Ki) series: EDS spectrum of a point within a chromium magnetite grain	37
10	Some highly significant bivariate relationships between the concentrations of elements in the 17 Thai paddy soils	41
11	Depth functions for factors 1 (Cr, Si, sand) and 2 (other parameters) for the 17 Thai paddy soils	42
12	Depth function for the three forms of extractable iron in Thai paddy soils	44
13	Bivariate relationships between the concentrations of extractable iron and aluminum (a) Fe_d and Al_d , (b) Fe_o and Al_o and (c) Fe_p and Al_p	46
14	Bivariate relationships between the concentrations of extractable iron and total phosphorous	46

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

Figure		Page
15	X-ray diffraction patterns of smectite from Apg1 horizon of Tha Rua series (Chromic Vertic Endoaqualf) and treated with various chain length (carbon number) of alkylamine (carbon chain length specified at right). The range for the monolayer to bilayer transition is indicated by the arrows	52
16	Irregular, platy morphology and EDX spectrum of a smectite crystal from the Bg2 horizon (80-115 cm) of the Bang Phae series	55
17	Transmission electron micrographs (TEM) of representative soil kaolins showing the wide ranges of crystal morphology and size	59
18	Histogram of the frequency of occurrence of crystals with various values of shape ratio (length/width) determined by TEM for Thai paddy soil kaolins	60
19	The frequency distribution of values of log width (nm) of kaolin crystals determined by TEM for Thai paddy soil kaolins. Mean and SD values are expressed in nanometres	61
20	Bivariate relationship of specific surface area with the reciprocal of coherently scattering domain (CSD) size for Thai paddy soil kaolins	62
21	EDX spectrum for a representative soil kaolins, Btg3 horizon (106-123 cm) of Chiang Rai series	63
22	Micromorphology of the soil horizons: (a) Btg4 horizon (94-125 cm) of Mae Sai series; (b) 2Btng5 horizon (108-132 cm) of Kula Ronghai series; (c) 2Btg7 horizon (148-174 cm) of Hang Dong series; (d) Btcg3 horizon (166-190 cm) of Chiang Rai series; (e) Btg1 horizon (22-38 cm) of Phimai 2 series; (f) Btg7 horizon (175-192 cm) of Chon Buri series	65

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

Figure		Page
23	Mean values of macroporosity (%) of soil profiles	68
24	Soil matrix of some Thai paddy soils (a) sericite (fine mica) disseminated throughout the s-matrix of Mai Sai series (Btg4 horizon; 94-125 cm) and (b) carbonate is disseminated throughout the s-matrix of Lop Buri series (BCk horizon; 130-155 cm)	68
25	Organic pigment associated with clay and silt fractions forming soil aggregates in the Apg1 (0-13/17 cm) horizon, San Sai series	69
26	Optical micrographs of Thai paddy soils (a) iron oxide quasi-coating in Mae Sai series (Btg3 horizon, 70-93 cm); (b) iron oxide coatings in Roi Et series (Btg6 horizon, 140-169 cm); (c) iron oxide hypo-coatings in Chon Buri series (Apg2 horizon, 20-38 cm); (d) iron oxide hypo-coating in Chiang Rai series (Btcg3 horizon, 166-190 cm); (e) iron oxide along plant root in Hang Dong series (Apg1 horizon, 0-15 cm) and (f) clay mixed with iron oxide coating and hypo-coating in Chon Buri series (Apg2 horizon, 20-38 cm)	71
27	Optical, backscattered electron micrograph and element maps (Si, Al and Ca) and normalized composition triangular graph for the Ap (0-23 cm) horizon of Lop Buri series where the matrix consists of smectite, other minor clay minerals and lesser disseminated calcite. The nodules consist of almost pure calcite	74

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

Figure		Page
28	Optical, backscattered electron micrograph and element maps (Si, Al and Fe) and normalized composition triangular graph for the Btg4 (94-125 cm) horizon of Mae Sai series. The matrix consists mostly of approximately equal amounts of kaolin and illite (30% Al ₂ O ₃ , 70% SiO ₂) and the compositions of clay coatings and iron oxide mottles mostly fall close to the line for this Al ₂ O ₃ /SiO ₂ ratio	75
29	Optical, backscattered electron micrograph and element maps (Si, Al and Fe) and normalized composition triangular graph for the Apg1 (0-14 cm) horizon of Roi Et series. The matrix consists mostly of approximately equal amounts of kaolin and smectite (29% Al ₂ O ₃ , 71% SiO ₂) and the composition of iron oxide mottles falls on the line for this Al ₂ O ₃ /SiO ₂ ratio	76
30	Optical, backscattered electron micrograph and element maps (Si, Al and Fe) and normalized composition triangular graph for the Btcg1 (53-80/90 cm) horizon of Chiang Rai series. The matrix consists of various mixtures of kaolin and lesser illite with a Al ₂ O ₃ /SiO ₂ ratio of about 36%/64% whereas the composition of ferruginous nodules falls on the kaolin line (46% Al ₂ O ₃ / 54% SiO ₂)	77
31	Optical, backscattered electron micrograph and element maps (Si, Al and Fe) and normalized composition triangular graph for the Apg1 (0-18 cm) horizon of Kula Ronghai series. The matrix consists of various mixtures of kaolin and lesser smectite with a Al ₂ O ₃ /SiO ₂ ratio of about 29%/71% whereas the composition of ferruginous nodules indicates that they contain high amounts of aluminum (54% Al ₂ O ₃ / 46% SiO ₂)	78

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

Figure		Page
32	(a) Optical image of gypsum crystals in soil of the Bang Phae series, (b) SEM image and (c) EDS spectrum	79
33	Backscattered electron images of gypsum crystals in soil of the Bang Phae series (a) Apg2 horizon (6-30 cm): an aggregate of gypsum crystals in a void, (b) Apg2 horizon (6-30 cm): an aggregate of granular and tabular gypsum crystals, (c) Bg1 horizon (55-80 cm): large accumulation of lenticular gypsum crystals in a pore	80