

Wittaya Kaewsri 2006: Systematic Studies of the Genus *Amomum* Roxb.
(Zingiberaceae) in Thailand. Doctor of Philosophy (Horticulture), Major Field:
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Many species of *Amomum* are used as medicine and spice. At present, the situation of Thai *Amomum* is at risk of extinction because of forest destruction. Furthermore, its taxonomic status is still confusing due to the absence of a comprehensive work and the wanting of good specimens in most herbaria. The revision of this genus is urgently needed to clarify its taxonomic status. Field collection was carried on during April 2003-June 2005. Morphological characteristic, AFLP analysis and pollen morphology were studied in order to aid identification and classification. The results revealed that total of 31 species, exclude five previously recorded species were collected during our field expedition. Thirteen species from the collection were identified and 18 species will be proposed as new species. Clustering by AFLP marker corresponds to fruit and leafy stem characteristics. The palynological result reveal that pollen grains of Thai *Amomum* are spherical to subspherical, inaperturate; exine sculpture is echinate or psilate. Although exine sculpturing can divide the species into two groups; echinate and psilate, it is less useful for subgeneric classification.



Student's signature



Thesis Advisor's signature

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