CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This present work revealed that the latex of *Papaver somniferum* L., obtained from the hill tribes of northern Thailand, yielded morphine in higher percentage than the other three main alkaloids, i.e. narcotine, codeine and thebaine. The red flowered Opium Poppies gave more latex and higher percentage of alkaloids in the first lancings than that from the white ones. In the second lancings, the percentage of alkaloids from the white ones were gigher than that of the red ones but the lesser yield of latex.

In the second lancings, the latex yielded the high percentage of morphine in the seventh to eighth day; codeine, the fifth day; thebaine, the first or second day and narcotine, the seventh or eighth day after the first lancings. The second lancings should be done on the seventh or eighth day after the first lancings.

Quantitative study of benzylisoquinoline alkaloids from the latex of the plants is recommended. This group of alkaloids also has pharmacological actions, especially papaverine, and it is the first intermidiate in the biosynthetic pathway leading to morphinane alkaloids, in order to find the correlation of patterns and amount of the benzylisoquinolines to those of the morphinanes.