



## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

Asclepiadaceae is a family in the order Gentianales, other families of which include Gentianaceae, Oleaceae, and Apocynaceae. Anatomically they resemble the Apocynaceae in having bicollateral bundles and latex. Asclepiadaceae is different from Apocynaceae in that it has a pollinia (waxy mass) anther and a crown (Mc Lean & Ivimey-Cook, 1965).

The family Asclepiadaceae consists of 290 genera and almost 3,000 species in the tropics and in the warm temperate regions, especially in Africa, south of the equator.(Dassanayake and Fosbergs, 1983).

Part of member in this family has been separated as a family of Periplocaceae by some authors because of the pollination mechanism (Shaw, 1988).

The description of plants in the Asclepiadaceae is as below (Backer and Bakhuizen van den Brink, 1965; Bentham and Hooker, 1969)

Climbing, twining, or erect shrubs or shrublets, herbs, or rarely trees, often with milky juice. Leaves usually opposite, sometimes 3-4 verticillate, exstipulate or with minute stipules, simple, herbaceous, coriaceous, or fleshy, usually entire, sometimes repand-exsculptate, on the upper side at the base of the midrib often bearing minute bodies (trichomes).

Flowers usually between the petioles of a leaf-pair, rarely axillary or terminal, in (dichasial or monochasial) often umbelliform or paniculiform cymes or in racemes, nearly always actinomorphous, bisexual, mostly 5-merous; calyx gamophylloous, on the inside often provided with minute basal glands, frequently deeply divided; corolla gamophylloous, rotate, campanulate, urceolate or salver-shaped, often fleshy; segments valvate or imbricate in bud; corona (paracorolla) usually present, attached to the stamens, to the corolla or to both, sometimes represented by hairy ridges only, rarely absent; stamens 5, at the base of the corolla or higher up; filaments connate, or free but then their margins touching each other; anthers appressed against the stigma, often

cohering with it into a dome-shaped or tubular envelope (gynostegium), which conceals the ovaries and the styles (in case styles are present), often with an apical membrane; anther cells 2-(4); ovaries 2, 0, mostly free and 1-celled, rarely connate into a 2-celled ovary; ovules  $\alpha$ , styles 0-2; stigma 1, large, more or less 5-angular, each angle bearing a removable translator, which may either be concave, more or less spoon-shaped and provided at one end with a viscid disk, or oblong-linear usually dark-colored, without a viscid disk; pollen-grains in the former case loosely cohering into a small number of sessile minute tetrads (groups of 4) directly applied against the concave part of the translator, in the latter case agglutinated into 1, exceptionally 2, larger, rather hard clumps (pollinia), pollinia usually attached to either side of the translator by means of a longer or shorter, straight or twisted, elastic strap (caudicle); translator in this case with 2, rarely 4 pollinia, furnished by 2 adjacent anthers; one end of each caudicle attached to the pollinium, the other end firmly adhering to the translator (which may be removed, together to the adhering pollinia, by some insect visiting the flower); fruit composed of 1 or 2 follicles (in the latter case sometimes cohering when unripe); follicles either widely spreading or not; seeds a, usually more or less compressed, very often at one end with a white coma, sometimes not comose but surrounded by a corky wing; embryo large; endosperm present.

### **Asclepiadaceous Plants in Thailand**

The occurrence of Asclepiadaceous plants in Thailand had been reported by Kerr in the *Florae Siamensis Enumeratio* (1951) and by Tem Smitinand in the *Thai Plant Names* (1980). These plants include various species as shown below:-

*Asclepias* Linn. = *Asclepiodora* A.Gray

*A. curassavica* Linn.

Local names: คำน้า Khaa nam, เต็งจ้อน Deng chon (Lampang); คำแคน Kham-khae (Shan-Mae Hong Son); ดอกไม้เมืองจัน Dokmai mueang cheen, ไม้เมืองจัน Mai mueang cheen (Surat Thani); เทียนแดง Thian daeng (Central); เทียนใต้ Thian tai; ไฟเดือนห้า Fai duean haa (Northern); บัวลาแดง Bualaa daeng (Chiang Mai); พอตอซู Pho-to-suu (Karen-Tak); พอสุ่นนา Pho-suu-noh (Karen- Mae Hong Son); ไม้จัน Mai cheen (Prachuap Khiri Khan); False Ipecacuanha; Milk weed; Bloodflower

*Atherandra* Decne.

*A. acutifolia* Decne.

*Atherolepis* Hook.f.=*Atherolepsis* Willis

*A. pierrei* Cost.

*A. pierrei* Cost.var.*glabra* Kerr

Local names: กำหยาน Kam yaan; ฤดู din Kuu din; เครือชาใหม่ Khrua khao mai (Northern); เชือกเถ้า Chueak thao (Nakhon Sawan); อบเชยเถ้า Opchoei thao (Central); อบเชยป่า Opchoei paa (Bangkok)

*Brachystelma* R.Br.

*B. edulis* Coll. et Hemsl.

Local name: แห้วกระดังงา Haeo kradang ngaa (Nakhon Sawan)

*B. kerrii* Craib

*Calotropis* R.Br.

*C. gigantea* R.Br.

Local names: ปอเกือน Po thuean, เป้านเกือน Paan thuean (Northern); รัก Rak; รักดอก Rak dok (Central); Crown Flower, Giant Indian Milkweed

*Ceropegia* Linn.

*C. arnottiana* Wight

Local name: เทพทาโร Thepthaaro (Prachuap Khiri Khan)

*C. jucunda* Kerr

*C. siamensis* Kerr

*C. sootepensis* Craib

Local names: มะเขือแจัด din Ma khuea chae din; มะมุดอย Mamui dui (Chiang Mai); ว่านสามพื้นทอง Waan saam pheenong (Nakhon Ratchasima)

*Ceropegia* spp.

*Cosmostigma* Wight.

*C. racemosa* (Roxb.) Wight.

*Cryptolepis* R.Br.

*C. buchanani* Roem. & Schult.

Local names: กวน Kuan (Shan-Mae Hong Som); เครือเถ้าเอ็น Khrua thao en (Chiang mai); ตินเป็ดเครือ Teenpet khrua (Northern); เถ้าเอ็นอ่อน Thao en on; ຂົມເຊີຍ Muei (Central); หนองหมี No-o-mee ( Karen-Mae Hong Son ); หญ้าลิลén Yaa lilen (Pattani); หมอนตันเป็ด Mon teen pet ( Surat Thani )

*C. elegans* Wall.

Local names: ชีโคะ Seekoh (Nakhon Ratchasima); ยานชีผึ้ง Yaan kheephueng (Satun)

*Cryptostegia* R.Br.

*C. grandiflora* R.Br.

Local names: ดาวประดับ Daao pradup; บานบุรีม่วง Baanburee muang (Bangkok); Rubber vine

*Cynanchum* Linn.,

*C. corymbosum* Wight

Local names: จิงจ้อขน Chingcho khon (Chiang Mai); พาไลกวาง Phaalai kwaang (Trat); มะระผีปลูก Mara phee pluuk (Rayong); เมืองอกเชา Muei nok khao (Chumphon)

*C. laeve* Blume K.Schum.= *C. ovalifolium* Ridl.

*Dischidia* R.Br.

*D. acuminata* Cost.

*D. acutifolia* Maingay

*D. balansae* Cost.

Local name: ดอกต้อม Dok tom (Chiang Mai)

*D. bengalensis* Colebr.

Local names: เกาลัยด่วน Thao wan duan (Prachuap Khiri Khan); เกาหัวด่วน Thao hua duan (Surat Thani); อ้อลับ O lop (Trang)

*D. calva* Kerr

*D. collyris* Wall

*D. griffithii* Hook.f.

Local name: นมเมีย Nom mia (Surat Thani)

*D. hirsuta* (Blume) Decne.

Local name: เกาอี้เปะ Thao ee pae (Rayong)

*D. imbricata* (Blume) Warburg

Local names: กีบม้าลม Keepmaa lom (Chiang Mai); เกล็ดนาคราช Klet naakkharaat (Chiang Mai, Ranong); เปี้ยไน Bia mai (Northern); ปรีอเปรา Prue - proh (Khmer)

*D. klossii* Ridl.

*D. minor* (Vahl) Merrill

Local names : กะปอต Mai Kapot mai (Chiang Mai, Chumphon); เกล็ดมังกร Klet mangkon; เปี้ย Bia (Central); หยาเกล็ดสิน Yaakletlin (Chon Buri)

*D. rafflesiana* Wall.

Local names: กลวยไม้ Kluai mai (Northern); จุไรหิน Chuk rohinee (Central); เกาพุงปลา Thao phung plaa (Ranong, Eastern); นมดำไร Nom-tam-rai (Khmer); บัวลม Buap lom (Nakhon Ratchasima, Ubon Ratchathani)

*D. rimicola* Kerr

Local name: เถือเปะ Thao ee pae (Rayong)

*D. singularis* Craib

*D. tomentella* Ridl.

*D. tricholoba* Kerr.

*D. viridiflora* Ridl.

*Dischidia* sp.

*Dittoceras* Hook.f.

*D. garretti* Kerr

*D. maculatum* Kerr

*Finlaysonia* Wall.

*F. maritima* (Blume) Backer = *F. obovata* Wall.

Local name: กระเพาะปลา Kra phoh plaa (Chantabun)

*Genianthus* Hook.f.

*G. crassifolius* (Wight) Hook.f.

Local name: กระหมุดปลาไหล Kramut plaa lai (Nakhon Ratchasima)

*G. laurifolius* (Roxb.) Hook.f.

*Golgyosperma* King et Gamble.

*G. curtisii* King et Gamble.

*G. lanuginosum* Rindl.

*Gongronema* Decne.

*G. filipes* Kerr

Local name: เครื่อนำแน่ Khruua nam nae (Chiang Mai)

*Gymnanthera* R.Br.

*G. nitida* R.Br.

*Gymnemopsis* Cost.

*G. calcicola* Kerr

*Gymnema* R.Br.

*G. acuminatum* (Roxb.) Wall.

Local name: ทองทาเครือ Thong thaakhruea (Prachin Buri)

*G. barbata* (Coll. et Hemsl.) Kerr

Local names: ເື່ອງໂຄກ Fueang khok (Khon Kaen); ອົບໄຫຍ່ Op yai (Nakhon Sawan)

*G. griffithii* Craib

Local name: ແຕງແພະ Taeng phae (Chiang Mai)

*G. inodorum* (Lour.) Decne.

Local name: ພັກເຊີຍດາ Phak chiang daa (Chiang Mai)

*G. latifolium* Wall. ex Wight

Local name: ເຕາມວນ Thao muan (Surat Thani)

*G. maingaya* Hook.f.

*Heterostemma* Wight et Arn.

*H. gracile* Kerr

*H. piperifolium* King et Gamble

Local name: ຕານຕະກາງ Taantakaang (Chumphon)

*H. siamicum* Craib

Local name: ເຄື່ອເຂາມນ້ອຍ Khruea khao khom noi (Chiang Mai)

*H. succosum* Kerr

*H. wallichii* Wight

Local names: ເຄື່ອເຂາມນ້ອຍ Khrura khao khom noi, ຕຳລຶງທອງ Tam lueng thong (Central); ດິງ Dee nguu (Peninsular)

*Holostemma* R.Br.

*H. fragrans* Wall.

*Hoya* R.Br.

*H. coriacea* Bl.

Local name: ນມເມືຍ Nom mia (Pattani)

*H. coronaria* Bl.

Local names: ตะขา Ta-khaa (Malay-Narathiwat); ตะบา Ta-baa ( Malay-Pattani )

*H. densiflora* Bl.

Local name: กล้วยปีง Kluai ping (Central)

*H. diversifolia* Bl.

Local name: ลิ้นคaway Lin khwaai (Songkhla)

*H. engleriana* Hosseus

*H. erythrostemma* Kerr

*H. finlaysoniana* Wight

Local name: นมเมีย Nom mia (Pattani)

*H. flagellata* Kerr

*H. fusca* Wall.

*H. graveolens* Kerr

*H. kerrii* Craib

Local names: ตัง Daang (Bangkok); คำงTaang(Ubon Ratchathani); เพียงขโมย Thian Khamoi (Central)

*H. lacunosa* Bl.

Local name: นมเมีย Nom mia (Chiang Mai)

*H. lasiantha* Blume Korth

*H. latifolia* G.Don

*H. longifolia* Wall. ex Wight

*H. maingayi* Hook.f.

*H. micrantha* Hook.f.

Local name: นมเมีย Nom mia (Chiang mai, Phangnga)

*H. mitrata* Kerr

*H. multiflora* Blume

Local name: กล้วยไม้พันงุ Kluaimaiphannguu (Central )

*H. obcordata* Hook.f.

Local names: เพียงขโมย Thian khamoi, สังวาลพระอินทร์ Sangwaan phra in (Chon Buri)

*H. obtusifolia* Wight

*H. oreogena* Kerr

*H. ovalifolia* Wight & Arn.

Local name; นมดำเนีย Nom tamlia (Central)

*H. pachyclada* Kerr

Local names; ต้าง Taang (Loei); ต้างใหญ่ Taang yai (Khon Kaen); เป้าง Paang (Kanchanaburi)

*H. parasitica* Wall.

Local names: นามพิจิตร Nom phichit; นามมู Nom muu (Central); เนื้องด้อม Nuea matom (Northern); ลินเหี้ย Lin hia (Bangkok)

*H. parviflora* Wight.

*H. rigida* Kerr

Local names: เถ้าอ้อยปลา Thao roi plaa (Trat); ลิ้นคaway Lin khwaai (Pattani)

*H. siamica* Craib

*Ischnostemma* King et Gamble

*I. carnosum* (R.Br.) Merrill et Rolfe

*Lygisma* Hook.f.

*L. angustifolium* (Wight.) Hook.f.

*L. flavum* (Ridl.) Kerr

*L. inflexum* (Cost.) Kerr

*L. nervosum* Kerr

*Marsdenia* R.Br.

*M. cambodiensis* Cost.

Local names: เถาข้าวสาร Thao khaao saan, หมักจี Mak chee (Chiang Mai)

*M. calcicola* Kerr

*M. eriocaulis* Kerr

*M. glabra* Cost.

Local names: เถาวัลย์ด้ำ Thaowan dam; ผักเส้า Phak saeo (Saraburi)

*M. pierrei* Cost. = *M. thyrsiflora* Hook.f.

Local name: ผักหนังเครือเข้า Phak nang khruua khao (Saraburi)

*M. tinctoria* R.Br.

Local names: ครามเตา Khraam thao (Surat Thani); เบิก Boek (Chiang Mai); เมือก Bueak (Loei); อาการโถง A-kaa taa- khong, อาการไตรง A - kaa tai - raang (Malay - Pattani)

*Meladerma* Kerr

*M. deciduum* Kerr

*M. insularum* (King et Gamble) Kerr

*M. puberulum* Kerr

*Myriopteron* Griff.

*M. extensum* (Wight) K. Schum = *M. paniculatum* Griff.

Local names: กอน Kon (Shan-Mae Hong Son); ขมเหลือง Khom lueang (Chiang Mai); ข้าวสาร Khaao saan, เครือเขาขมหลวง Khruea khao khom luang, ชะเอม Cha em (Central); ปั่นไม้ Paang mai (Lampang); สีอีกป้อป้อ Sue-kee po-bo (Karen-Mae Hong Son); อ้อยสามส่วน Oi saam suan, อ้อยแสนส่วน Oi saen suan (Northern)

*Oxystelma* R. Br.

*O. esculentum* (Linn.f.) R.Br.

Local names: จมูกปลาหลด Cha muuk plaa lot, สะอึก Sa uek (Central); จมูกปลา ใหหลด Chamuuk plaa lai dong (Phetchabun); ตะมูกปลาไหล Ta muuk plaa lai (Naknon Ratchasima); ผักไข่ Phak mai (Chiang Mai)

*Pentasachme* Wall. ex Wight.

*P. caudatum* Wall. ex Wight.

*Periploca* Linn.

*P. purpurea* Kerr

*Raphistemma* Wall.

*R. hooperianum* (Blume) Decne.

Local names: ข้าวสารดอกเล็ก Khaao saan dok lek (Bangkok); เมือยสาร Muei saan (Chumphon)

*R. pulchellum* Wall.

Local names: ข้าวสาร Khaao saan (General); ข้าวสารดอกใหญ่ Khaao saan-dok yai(Bangkok); เดือคิก Khuea khik (Sakon Nakhon); เชงคุยมังอุ่มเมื่อ Sengkhui mang-uu-mue; มังอุ่มเมื่อเช้งครីយ Mung-ui-mue seng-khrue (Karen-Lampang); มะໄວเครือ Ma O khruea; เครือเขาหนัง Khruea khao nang (Northern)

*Sarcolobus* R.Br.

*S. carinatus* Wall.

*S. globosus* Wall.

Local name: หัวลิง Hua ling (Bangkok)

*Sarcostemma* R.Br.

*S. acidum* (Roxb) Voigt = *S. brevistigma* Wight. & Arn. = *Asclepias acida* Roxb.

Local name: พญาไร่ใบ Phayaa rai bai (central)

*S. brunonianum* Wight. & Arn.

Local names: เกติดต่อ Thao titto (Nakhon Ratchasima); เกาวลักษ์ยอดด่วน Thao wan yot duan (Ratchaburi); เกาวลักษ์ด่วน Thao wan duan (Central); เกาหุด่วน Thao huu duan (Suphan Buri); เอ็องเจา Ueang thao (Kanchanaburi)

*Secamone* R.Br.

*S. caudata* Pierre ex Cost.

*S. ferruginea* Pierre ex Cost. = *S. micrantha* Craib.

*S. lanceolata* Blume

*S. micrantha* King & Gamble

Local names: เกานักเลี้ยง Thao phak liang (Surat Thani); ขี้เดือนเล็ก Khee duean lek (Surat Thani).

*S. siamica* Kerr

*Stephanotis* Thouars

*S. floribunda* Brongn.

Local names: ชะลุดชาัง Cha luut chaang; ช่อนกลินเกา Sonklin thao (Central); Creeping Tuberose

*S. pilosa* Kerr

*Streptocaulon* Wight. et Arn.

*S. juventas* (Lour.) Merrill

Local names: เถาประสง Tao prasong (Krabin); นาขัน Nui nang (Chumpawn); เถาจุกโรหินี Tao chuk ro hi ni (Langsuan); หย่างสมุด Yung samut; หย่างสมุดน้อย Yong samut noi (Lao, Chiang Mai); เถาดำyan lak hom Tao tam yan lak hom

*S. kleinii* Wight et Arn.

Local names: ขี้เดือน Ki duan (Surat Thani); จูกะโรหินี Chuk karohini (Chainat)

*S. tomentosum* Wight. var.*latifolium* Cost.

*S. wallichii* Wight.

Local name: เดือยดิบ Duei dip (Phatthalung)

*Telectadium* Baill.

*T. edule* Baill.

*Telosma* Coville.

*T. minor* (Andr.) Craib

Local names: ສັດ Salit (Central,Lao); ຂຈ Kha chon (Bangkok)

*T. pallida* (Roxb.) Craib = *Pergularia pallida* (Roxb.) Wight. et Arn.=  
*Asclepias pallida* Roxb.

Local names: ພັກສັດຄາເລາ Phak salit khaa lao(Chiang Mai); ສັດປໍາ Salit pa  
(Central)

*Toxocarpus* Wight. et Arn.

*T. curtissii* King et Gamble

*T. lagenifer* Kerr

*T. lankawiensis* King et Gamble

*T. ob lanceolatus* Kerr

*T. ovatus* Kerr

Local names: ເໜີເຕືອນ Khee duean (Surat Thani); ຢ່ານພາຫວາ Yaan phaa haao  
(Nakhon Si Thammarat)

*T. pauciflorus* Hendersen

*T. siamensis* Schlechter

*T. spirei* Cost.

Local names: ຊຸດແಡງ Sut daeng (Nakhon Phanom); ນົກເຂາເໜາ Nok khao  
ngao (Chanthaburi)

*T. villosus* Decne. = *T. hosseusii* Schltr.

Local names: ເກົວລ້ຽນແດງ Thao wan daeng (Ratchaburi); ເຄື່ອຊັດ Khrua Sut  
(Loei); ເຄື່ອມະແດກ Khrua ma taek (Northern); ອົບເໝຍເກາ Op choei thao (Bangkok)

*Tylophora* R. Br.

*T. fasciculata* Ham.ex Wight.

Local name: ເກົ່າຮົງດຳ Thao rong dam (Nakhon Sawan)

*T. helferi* Hook.f.

Local name: ຍູ້ສາມສິບສອງຫັກ Yaa saamsipsong haak (Nakhon Sawan)

*T. hirsuta* (Wall.) Wight.

*T. indica* (Burm.f.) Merrill = *T. asthmatica* (Roxb.) W. & A.

Local names: ខេណុន Khun phuum (Nakhon Phanom); គោលូតិ៍ Khanthulee, ភោជ្ជៈ Thao nang (Surat Thani); ថាតាប៉ានរក Thaaoo phan raak; នង់យៈតែន Nuai Sai duean (Chumphon)

*T. kerrii* Craib

*T. purpurea* Wall. ex Wight.

*T. riparia* Kerr

*T. rotundifolia* Ham. ex Wight.

Local name: កំរុងកំលែខំណែន Kamko lotkhon (Nakhon Ratchasima)

*T. sootepensis* Craib

*T. tenuis* Blume

*Wattakaka* Hassk. = *Dregea* E. Mey.

*W. lanceolata* (T.cooke) Kerr

*W. volubilis* (Linn.f.) Stapf

Local names: ក្រចុងមោបា Kra thung maabaa (Bangkok); ដៃក្រោងអុំ Pak huan mu (Lao)

*Zygostelma* Benth.

*Z. benthamii* Baill.

Local names: ឧបមេខេយ Op choi; គីឡូមេខាងខាងខ្មែរ Khruea khao luak (Lao, Chiang Mai); តោបាយានចុំពួី Thao tam yaan tua puu(Nakhon Sawan); ឧបមេខេយ Op choei thao (Chainat)

*Z. benthamii* Baill. var.*lineare* Costatin

*Atherolepis* Hook.f is a very small genus in the Asclepiadaceae. Plants in this genus are found distributing in Burma and Siam. (Shaw, 1966), possesing the characteristic features which are described as follows (Hooker, 1969) :-

A pubescent slender climber. Leaves opposite, very narrow, membranous. Flowers very small, in very short few-flowered axillary pubescent cymes. Calyx 1/2 superior, tube turbinate; lobes short, eglandular within. Corolla rotate; lobes triangular, overlapping to the right. Coronal scales 5, subulate, at the back of the stamens. Stamens at the base of the coroll; filaments very short, distinct, with interposed rounded glands; anthers oblong, coniving over and adherent to the stigma, tips obtuse, connate; pollen-masses in pairs in each cell, granular; appendages of the corpuscles diated. Ovary half sunk in the calyx-tube and adherent to it; stigma small, tip obtuse. Fruit unknown.

According to the Index Kewensis and its supplements, there are three species of this genus as shown below:-

1. *Atherolepsis wallichii* Hook. f.
2. *A. venosa* Collett et Hemsl.
3. *A. pierrei* Cost.

*Atherolepis pierrei* Cost.var.*glabra* Kerr is the only one species of the genus *Atherolepis* which is reported to be found in Thailand. (Smitinand, 1980).

This plant is known in various local names such as กໍາຫຍານ Kam yaan; ກຸດິນ Kuu-din; ເຄື່ອເຂາໄໜ້ Khruea khao mai (Northern); ເຊີກເຕາ Chueak thao (Nakhon Sawan); ອັບເຊຍເຕາ Opchoei thao (Central); ອັບເຊຍປ້າ Opchoei paa (Bangkok).

The characteristic feature of *Atherolepis pierrei* Cost. is described as follows:- (Lecomte, 1936)

Tige grêle, poilue, grimpante, à lenticelles ovales, allongées sur les parties âgées et glabrescentes. Feuilles oblongues-ovales, avec un petit acumen à l'extrémité, très velues, surtout en dessous, d'un brun roussâtre, surtout en dessus, à poils grisâtres; nervures 8-10 paires, ascendantes vers les bords; limbe long de 2.5-5 cm., large de 8-16 mm.; pétiole poilu, long de 2 mm; stipules représentées par de petites pointes très courtes aux noeuds. Inflorescences très courtes, axillaires, n' atteignant pas 1 cm. (fleurs comprises); pédoncules velus (2 mm.) ainsi que les pédicelles (3 mm.) ramifiés et portant 3-4 fleurs serrées; bouton courtement conique, long de 6-7 mm., large de 3 mm. velu sur le calice et la corolle. -Calice court, divisé en 5 sépales ovales-acuminés, présentant à la base et au dedans 5 glandes calicinales. Corolle rotacée, à tube très court, à lobes tordus, se recouvrant à droite, légèrement velus à l'extérieur, et à l'intérieur à lobes triangulaires-aigus. Coronule formée de 5 écailles fixées au dos et à la base du filet des étamines, élargies à la base, concaves et bifides, à pointes effilées, atteignant ou dépassant le sommet de l'anthere. Elamines 5; filets libres; anthère ovale-triangulaire non prolongée en pointe effilée; écailles 5, fugaces, entre les étamines et les 5 pièces de la coronule et soudées entre elles par les côtés à la base; pollen granuleux, recueilli dans des translateurs ovales, retrécis en bas. Pistil à tête stylaire élargie, surmontée d'une très courte pointe.

Cochinchine: Bao-chiang, province de Bien-hoa (*Pierre*).-Siam: Petchabouri, Muong-pran (*Pierre*).

The root of this plant has long been used in Thailand as an antispasmodic, a carminative, an antipyretic and for the treatment of vertigo (Pongboonrod, 1950)

Up to now, there have been no reports on phytochemical study of *Atherolepis*; therefore, this investigation deals with the isolation, purification and identification of chemical compounds present in the roots of the plant in order to contribute our knowledge of constituents produced in this species. The results of this work are expected to provide valuable information in the field of chemotaxonomy and phytochemistry.