

## THE FOREST HERBARIUM

### 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Forest Herbarium (BKF), the Royal Forest Department, was founded in 1930, ten years after the establishment of the Bangkok Herbarium (BK), Department of Technical Agriculture. The BKF, now under the administration of Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, has main functions of conducting botanical inventory, maintenance of the herbarium collections and management of the botanical gardens and arboreta throughout Thailand. The BKF is also active on taxonomic and ecological researches particularly the Flora of Thailand project and vegetation of Thailand. The first director of the BKF is Phraya Winit Wanandon, one of the most well-known earlier plant collectors in Thailand. Since 1951 when Tem Smitinand was in charge of the director, botanical research on Thai flora has been much in solid progress, especially the ongoing Flora of Thailand project initiated in 1963. The following directors of the BKF include Chamlong Phengklai, Thawatchai Santisuk, Chawalit Niyomdham, Kongkanda Chayamarit and at present, Thawatchai Wongprasert.

The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Forest Herbarium is greatly beneficial to botanical and ecological researches in Thailand. It has been eighty years that the BKF has achievement of its goals with

great collaboration from both foreign and national institutes. In this commemoration publication of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BKF, staff of the Forest Herbarium would like to take this opportunity to express our very sincere appreciation for the kind cooperation of all collaborating institutes and contributors both foreign and national, who have devoted their time and efforts in continuing updating the progress on the Flora of Thailand and Thai Forest Bulletin (Botany). We are most grateful for the generous help rendered by the editorial board members of both Flora of Thailand and Thai Forest Bulletin (Botany). Without their zeal and their expert knowledge, the books would never have seen the light of day.

From this commemoration issue, the Thai Forest Bulletin (Botany) has changed to a larger size and new formatting, with many more colour illustrations. We hope these changes will be acceptable to everyone. It remains to express the hope that the volumes of the flora and bulletin will do what they are intended to make available to a much wider circle of readers than ever.

Thawatchai Santisuk  
Editor