INTRODUCTION

In 1989, the Thai Pharmacopoeia Committee appointed the Subcommittee on Establishment of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia with the mission of establishing the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia, a companion publication to the existing Thai Pharmacopoeia. The Subcommittee's responsibilities are:

1. selecting appropriate herbal drugs and herbal drug preparations based on public health and industrial demand for further consideration by the Thai Pharmacopoeia Committee;
2. establishing specifications for herbal drugs and herbal drug preparations selected by the Thai Pharmacopoeia Committee and compiling the corresponding monographs;
3. publishing the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia;
4. attending to all matters related to the preparation of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia.

In 2010, the Thai Pharmacopoeia Committee appointed three specialized subcommittees to provide the existing subcommittee with data on specific fields in order to facilitate the work of the Subcommittee on Establishment of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia. The responsibilities of each Subcommittee are as described below.

1. Subcommittee on Pharmacognostic and Botanic Specifications for Thai Herbal Monographs:

1.1 producing drafts of the pharmacognostic and botanic specifications of the Thai herbal monographs, i.e., nomenclature, definitions, plant descriptions, macroscopical and microscopical descriptions, and other related information;

1.2 submitting the drafts to the Subcommittee on the Establishment of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia for approval;

1.3 attending to all matters related to the preparation of pharmacognostic and botanic specifications.

2. Subcommittee on Physico-Chemical Specifications and Safety for Thai Herbal Monographs:

2.1 producing drafts of the physico-chemical specifications of the Thai herbal monograph, i.e., constituents, packaging and storage, identification, assay, ashes, extractives, and other related information;

2.2 producing draft information on the safety of the Thai herbal monographs, i.e., categories, contra-indications, warnings, precautions, additional information, dosage, and other related information;

2.3 submitting the drafts to the Subcommittee on the Establishment of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia for approval;

2.4 attending to all matters related to the preparation of the physico-chemical and safety specifications.

3. Subcommittee on Standards for Thai Herbal Drug Preparations:

3.1 producing draft specifications for Thai herbal drug preparations preselected by the Thai Pharmacopoeia Committee and compiling these specifications in monographs in the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia;

3.2 submitting the drafts to the Subcommittee on the Establishment of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia for approval;

3.3 attending to all matters related to establishing the specifications for Thai herbal drug preparations;

3.4 preparing appendices of the tests related to the Thai herbal monographs.

It is worth mentioning here that the above tasks cannot be completed without the support of the following additional subcommittees.

1. Subcommittee on Editorial Style:

1.1 designing the format and style for printing;

1.2 editing the text;

1.3 keeping conformity of the molecular formulae, chemical names, molecular weights, and expressions of the symbols of units throughout the text;

1.4 attending to all matters related to editing the Pharmacopoeia.

2. Subcommittee on Standards and Analytical Methods

2.1 selecting drugs to be included in or excluded from the Thai Pharmacopoeia;

2.2 preparing draft specifications, including analytical procedure, for drug monographs in the Thai Pharmacopoeia;

2.3 preparing the appendices regarding testing methods and reagents;

2.4 performing any other assigned tasks.

Starting from the THP 2021 Supplement 2022, the Subcommittee on Establishment of the Thai Herbal Pharmacopoeia and its associates have made some changes by omitting non-essential data such as the table of hR_f values and replacing most line drawings of microscopical characters of herbal drugs with photomicrographs to streamline the content of the monographs. Minor changes of General Notices are made in this publication.

The Subcommittees appreciate all comments and suggestions from the readers/users. They will be incorporated as appropriate into the next revised monographs.

Reference to the previously established monographs

For the previously established monographs, please refer to THP 2021 (Volumes I and II), THP 2021 Supplement 2022, THP 2021 Supplement 2023, THP 2021 Supplement 2024, and THP 2021 Supplement 2025 or visit the BDN website at: *http://bdn-thp.dmsc.moph.go.th/home*