

RUNGTIP MALAIPHIS : REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY AND PROPAGATION OF
LIMNOPHILA GEOFFRAYI BONATI AND *L. AROMATICA* (LAM.) MERR. THESIS
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Limnophila geoffrayi, a native herb of Thailand, is declining in the wild, while *L. aromatica* is an introduced species, widely cultivated. Both species are aromatic plants used in Isaan local food and known for their antioxidant properties. This study investigated floral morphology and phenology, breeding systems, and pollination of both species. For *L. geoffrayi*, which produces natural seed, seed germination and in vitro shoot regeneration were studied to support the conservation and sustainable use. The result showed floral observations revealed tubular, bilaterally symmetrical flowers in both species, with *L. aromatica* displaying violet corolla and *L. geoffrayi* showing color variation. *Limnophila aromatica* may be self-incompatible with no fruit set, while *L. geoffrayi* was self-compatible with 100% fruit set under natural pollination and bag experiment. Pollination was primarily done by solitary bees, and despite *L. geoffrayi*'s autogamy, cross-pollination is possible due to visitor behavior. Seed germination tests showed that 12-month storage improved germination vigor more effectively than soaking seeds in water and soaking seeds in GA3 at concentrations of 250 ppm, 500 ppm, and 1,000 ppm. In vitro propagation using nodal segments showed 100% shoot regeneration, in Murashige and Skoog (MS) with 0.5 mg/l BAP, yielding the best results in shoot length, number, and leaf development. Higher BAP concentrations reduced shoot quality. These findings provide essential insights for the conservation, propagation, and genetic resource management of *L. geoffrayi*.

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