

CHAPTER II

PLANT MATERIAL

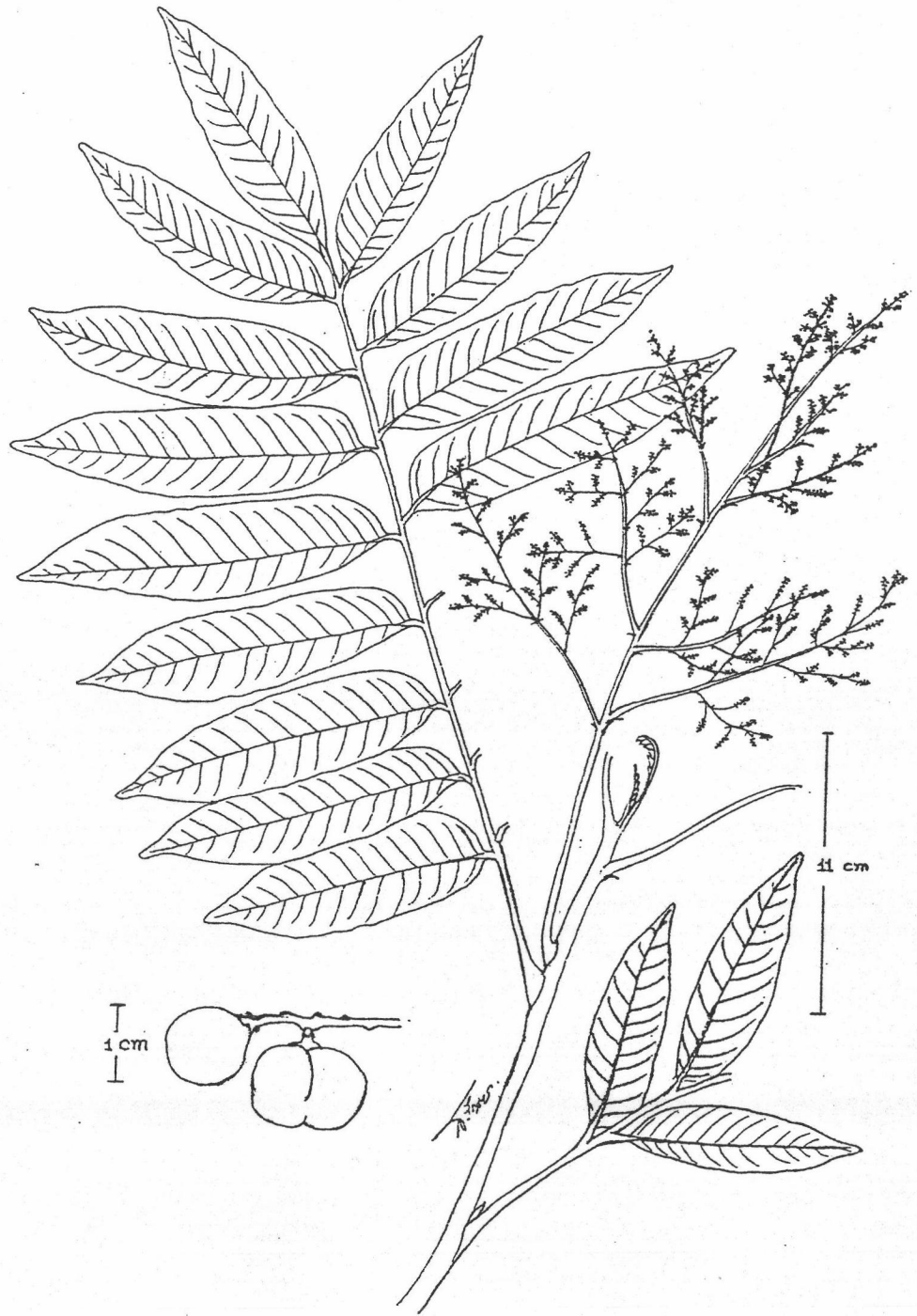
Aglaia pyramidata Hance (Syn. *Aglaia cochinchinensis* (Pierre) Pell.) distributed in eastern part of Thailand, Cambodia. The local name of this plant was chamchamot (จันทน์ชะมด) in chanthaburi (Craib (1931) and Smitinand (1980)). It was described by F. Pellegrin (1911) as follow :

a moderate tree, 15 to 25 m, trunk diameter 30 to 40 cm, with light, reddish wood. Branch rounded, 3-4 mm in diameter, covered with scales towards the top. Leaves large, alternate, 30 - 35 cm in length, petiole common, canaliculated on the dorsal surface, swollen at the base covered with scales, petioles striated, squamous, 6 mm long; leaflet 7-8 pairs, somewhat coriaceous, glabrous and glossy on the dorsal surface, glabrescent and punctate on the ventral surface; leaflet 9-16 cm long, 3-4.5 wide, entire, oblong, lengthened, somewhat attenuated and unequally obtuse at the base, acuminate at the top; Secondary ribs, 10-15 on each side, very little prominent on the dorsal surface, fine, straight or little bent, almost opposite towards the base of the leaf, then alternate, vein system with very fine network. Inflorescence beautiful axillary, pyramidal, squamous panicles, 25-30 cm high; branching in loose clusters, the lower length of about 12 cm; peduncle very short, thick; bracts very small pointed; flowers globose, 1 mm long, some imperfectly developed male, some hermaphrodites. Calyx hairy-squamous outside, 0.25 mm high; sepals 5, imbricate, orbicular, adnate by the edges. Petals 5 glabrous, concave, more or less separable, 2-3 times longer than the sepals. Stamens 5; tube glabrous, urceolate, without strangulation at the base on the entire upper edge; anthers 5, glabrous, in the form of spindle, terminated in spherical points, fixed by the base to internal base of the tube, as high as it. Disk non. Ovary reduced to a small cylindrical column, with longitudinal grooves, glabrous,

except a sleeve of hair in scale at the base; lobes 2, rudimentary or sometimes absent. Ovary cylindrical, very short, scale; stigma sessile, truncate, glabrous; lobes 2, biovulate; ovules superimposed, incompletely anatropous, with dorsal raphe and external micropyle. Fruit : berry globulous, deprimated at the top, covered with scales, of 5 mm in diameter; lobes 2, often only 1 fertile; aril fleshy, reddish, well distinctive of the seed; albumen none; cotyledons superimposed, planteau horizontal tinny, hair-scaly, maginal.

The plant material (leaves) used in this study was obtained from Kitchaguth mountain, Chanthaburi province, Thailand, in December, 1989. It was identified to be *Aglaia pyramidata* Hance (Syn. *Aglaia cochinchinensis* (Pierre) Pell.), family Meliaceae, by comparison with voucher specimens at the Botany Section, Thechnical Division, Department of Royal Forest, Ministry of Agriculture and co-operative, Thailand.

The leaves were dried in an oven at low temperature (40 - 50 °C) and ground to powder in the Retsch K G type SK.1 mill.



Aglaia pyramidata Hance

MELIACEAE

MO. S. Gentry