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Chantarasuwan, B.

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Author: Chantarasuwan, Bhanumas

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Bhanumas Chantarasuwan was born on 6 August 1971 in Krabi province, Thailand, where he lived in a rural village. His first botanical contacts where initiated by the village elders, who learned him to recognise edible plants in the nearby forest. Bhanumas finished his secondary education at Nuaklongprachabamrung School, Krabi, in 1992, and left for Bangkok to study at the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University. He obtained his Bachelor degree of Sciences (Forestry) in 1996. During his Bachelor study he was drawn into botany by Associate Professor in dendrology Somnuek Phongampai, especially during the two-week dendrological field course in the forest. Next, he had to fulfil his military service in the navy in 1998 and he spent one year in the marine base at Sattahib, Chon Buri. Three years later (2001) he became a permanent staff member in The Thailand National Science museum, where his routine work is surveying plant diversity and collecting plant specimens for the museum. In 2007, he fulfilled his master degree in Forest Biology, also in Kasetsart University. His interest in *Ficus* (Moraceae) was inspired by Mrs. Sumon Masuthon, a lecturer in the Botany Department, a pioneer researcher in the taxonomy of Thai *Ficus*. During a field trip in 2003 Prof.dr. Cornelis C. Berg was the second person who stimulated him to work on *Ficus*. Bhanumas could fulfill his ideal to study *Ficus* when he was granted a scholarship for taxonomic studies by the Ministry of Science and Technology on behalf of the Royal Thai Government, under the responsibility of the Thailand National Science Museum. He started his Ph.D. at the National Herbarium of the Netherlands, Leiden University (now Naturalis Biodiversity Center), under the supervision of Prof.dr. Peter C. van Welzen and Prof. dr. Berg. After his graduation he will continue his career as a staff member of the Thailand National Science Museum, Pathum Thani province, Thailand.

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