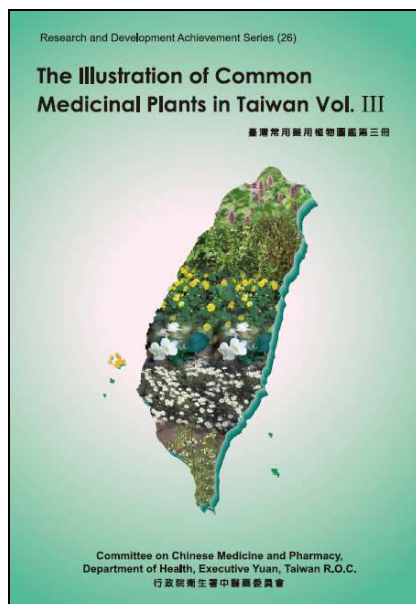


# The Illustration of Common Medicinal Plants in Taiwan Vol. III



## Introduction

The natural environment of Taiwan is very favorable, and the climate of Taiwan ranges from temperate, subtropical to tropical. There are abundant biological resources. The Council of Agriculture estimated that there are about 15 million species in Taiwan, equivalent to 1.5% of all species in the world. However, with Taiwan's ever accelerating social economic development and industrialization, a variety of species harbored within coastal lines, intertidal zones and wetlands are gradually disappearing. Natural reserves in Taiwan are severely threatened and may become extinct. In view of this, the Committee on Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy (CCMP), Department of Health, Executive Yuan has successively commissioned a number of research projects on medicinal plant resources in Taiwan since 1995. A total of 1,217 wild or cultivated medicinal plants were recorded. The name, scientific name, family name, variant name, morphology, producing area, distribution, content, pharmacology, effect and color photo of each species are provided. The

Chinese version was published for the reference of general public.

This series is comprised of three volumes, the first volume contains 328 kinds of medicinal herbs, second and third volume contain 436 and 453 medicinal herbs. This series provides TCM pharmaceutical, academic and related fields with accurate knowledge of medicinal herbs. The first volume of Chinese version was published in September 2002, and it ranked first place in the “2003 Outstanding Government Publication” competition in March 2003.

Since 1995, some foreign experts and scholars came to Taiwan to participate in "Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM / TM)" were interested in this series and recommended CCMP to translate it into English. In view of this, the Committee on Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy especially commissioned international famous botanical experts, professor Tseng-Chieng Huang and his research team to compose the English edition.

After many editorial discussions, the book in this series were revised, edited, laid out and translated into English. The volume I and volume II of English version have been published in December 2009 and November 2011. The third volume has been completed and will be published soon. It is expected that as this book series becomes available, it would be able to accelerate the exchange of relevant information, to form international links, and to promote the internationalization of Taiwan's traditional medicine.