CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

Thai medicinal plants harbor a large number of endophytic fungus isolates. Dual-culture agar diffusion assay is a simple and rapid method in screening of endophytic fungi for their antimicrobial activities, especially when several culture media were determined. In this study, most of the endophytic fungi showed activities against the test microorganisms. Some of them showed activities against resistant microbial strains. Using resistant strains as test microorganisms could identify endophytic fungi that might be the potential source of novel antimicrobial compounds. Antimicrobial phenotype of endophytic fungi is rather unstable. Therefore, subculturing the fungi for several times should be avoided. Like in other fungi, culture medium significantly affects the expression of secondary metabolites. The antimicrobial activities of the active endophytic fungi may inhibit microorganism in different pathway. These endophytic fungus isolates should be studied further to identify the active metabolite (s).

