

## CHAPTER IV

### DISCUSSION 1

According to the method of extraction in this experiment, S.I was isolated from the fresh young leaves of Cassia siamea Lamk. growing in Thailand and identical with barakol, instead of 5-acetonyl-7-hydroxy-2-methylchromone as reported by Wagmer et al.<sup>(127)</sup> S.I (Barakol) gives yellowish fluorescence under ultraviolet light (365 nm) and behaves like alkaloids in many aspects such as giving positive test with many general alkaloidal reagents e.g. Dragendorff's, Mayer's reagent; which may induced to misunderstand as an alkaloid. Unfortunately, no authentic sample of barakol is available for comparison. But the physical properties and chemical nature of S.I was conform fairly well to the literature.

Wells<sup>(128)</sup> reported that there was a poisonous alkaloid,  $C_{14}H_{19}NO_3$  in branch, leaf, and pod of this plant. Intraperitoneal injection of 1 ml of 5% solution of hydrochloric salt of this alkaloid into the large guinea pigs resulted in poisoning and fatality. Considering the alkaloid-like properties and molecular formula of barakol, it might possibly be misunderstood as an alkaloid. So far as literature concerns, only one alkaloid siamin from the seed had been reported by Ahn and Zymalkowski<sup>(129)</sup> besides Wells.