

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	x
ABBREVIATION AND SYMBOLS	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER II MATERIALS AND METHODS	14
CHAPTER III RESULTS	25
CHAPTER IV DISCUSSION	45
REFERENCES	49
CURRICULUM VITAE	55

## LIST OF TABLES

TABLES		PAGE
1	Toxicity levels of organophosphate	2
2	Chemical residues found in fresh vegetable samples	4
3	List of chemicals banned in Thailand	5
4	Effects of multiple doses of dicrotophos on body weight	28
5	Effects of multiple doses of dicrotophos on food intake	30
6	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on isometric contractile properties	32
7	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on acetylcholinesterase activity in plasma, RBC and muscle homogenate	35
8	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on number of motor endplate classified according to the intensity of the acetylcholinesterase stained activity	42

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURES		PAGE
1	Structure of dicrotophos	3
2	Structure of neuromuscular junction and muscle contraction	7
3	Mechanisms of muscle contraction	8
4	The action of acetylcholinesterase (AChE)	10
5	A schematic representation of muscle preparation for neurally-evoked isometric contraction <i>in situ</i>	18
6	Determination of Time-to-peak tension (TPT), Peak tension (PT) and one-half relaxation time ( $_{1/2}RT$ ) from isometric single twitch of muscle	19
7	Photographs of motor end-plate showing differences between Normal/strong, moderate and weak AChE activities determine histochemically	23
8	Effects of multiple doses of dicrotophos on body weight	29
9	Effects of multiple doses of dicrotophos on food intake	31
10	Effects of single dose of dicrotophos on isometric contractile properties (Time-to-peak tension; TPT, Peak tension; PT, one-half relaxation time; $_{1/2}RT$ ) of gastrocnemius muscle	33

**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (CONTINUED)**

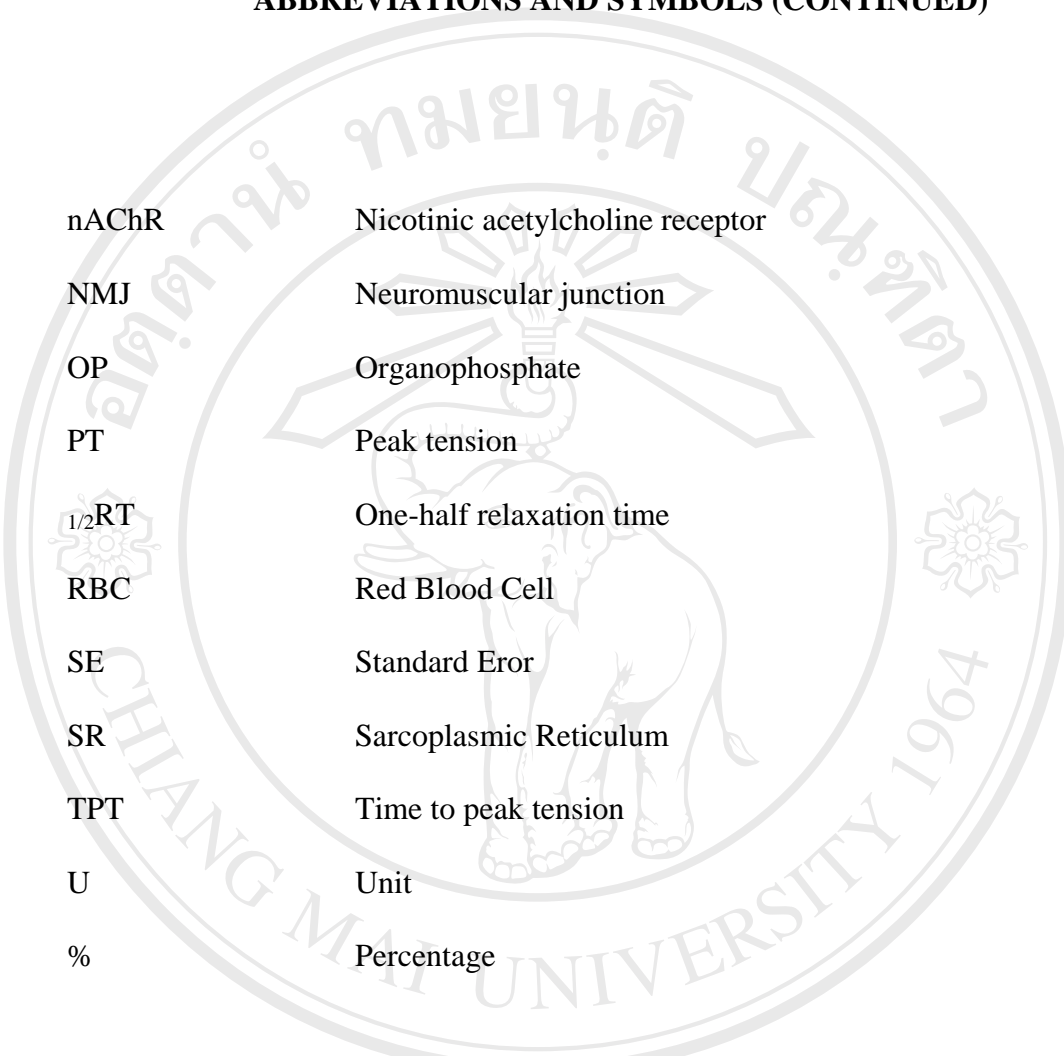
FIGURES		PAGE
11	Effects of multiple doses of dicrotophos on isometric contractile properties (Time-to-peak tension; TPT, Peak tension; PT, one-half relaxation time; $1/2RT$ ) of gastrocnemius muscle	34
12	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on acetylcholinesterase activity in plasma	36
13	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on % of control of acetylcholinesterase activity in plasma	37
14	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on acetylcholinesterase activity in RBC	38
15	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on % of control of acetylcholinesterase activity in RBC	39
16	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on acetylcholinesterase activity in muscle homogenate	40
17	Effects of single and multiple doses of dicrotophos on % of control of acetylcholinesterase activity in muscle homogenate	41

**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (CONTINUED)**

FIGURES		PAGE
18	Effects of single dose of dicrotophos on acetylcholinesterase activity in muscle stained	43
19	Effects of multiple doses of dicrotophos on acetylcholinesterase activity in muscle stained	44

### ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ACh	Acetylcholine
AChE	Acetylcholinesterase
°C	Degree Celsius
ChE	Cholinesterase
CNS	Central nervous system
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Calcium
EMG	Electromyographic
g	Gram
hrs	Hours
i.p.	Intraperitoneal
K <sup>+</sup>	Potassium
kg	Kilogram
L	Litre
LD <sub>50</sub>	Lethal dose 50
mg	Milligram
ml	Millilitre
mAChR	Muscarinic acetylcholine receptor
ms	Millisecond
nM	Millimolar
nm	Nanometer

**ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS (CONTINUED)**

nAChR	Nicotinic acetylcholine receptor
NMJ	Neuromuscular junction
OP	Organophosphate
PT	Peak tension
$\frac{1}{2}$ RT	One-half relaxation time
RBC	Red Blood Cell
SE	Standard Error
SR	Sarcoplasmic Reticulum
TPT	Time to peak tension
U	Unit
%	Percentage