

**เอสเทอร์ระเหยง่ายที่โดดเด่นในผลการเวกสุก**  
**The Predominant Ester Volatiles in Ripe Karawek (*Artabotrys siamensis*) Fruit**

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**บทคัดย่อ**

กลิ่นหอมส่วนใหญ่จากดอกของพืชในวงศ์กระดังงาเป็นเอสเทอร์กลิ่นผลไม้ และพฤติกรรมบานของดอกคล้ายกับรูปแบบการสุกของผลไม้ประเภทโคลแมกเทอร์ริก ผลของการเวกติดกันเป็นกลุ่มและเกิดขึ้นภายหลังจากกลีบดอกร่วง จากนั้นผลจะพัฒนาจนสุกได้เองตามธรรมชาติและมีกลิ่นหอมฉุนคล้ายกับกลิ่นของดอก ดังนั้นวัตถุประสงค์ของงานวิจัยในครั้งนี้คือการศึกษาองค์ประกอบของกลิ่นในผลการเวกสุก โดยทำการเก็บเกี่ยวผลการเวกที่แก่เต็มที่ แล้วปล่อยให้สุกที่อุณหภูมิห้อง จากนั้นเก็บกลิ่นของผลการเวกสุกด้วย SPME เพื่อนำไปวิเคราะห์องค์ประกอบของกลิ่นด้วย GC-MS ผลการทดลองพบว่าองค์ประกอบของกลิ่นที่โดดเด่นเป็นเอสเทอร์ระเหยง่าย โดยกลุ่มหลักที่มีปริมาณมากเป็นเอสเทอร์ที่มีกลิ่นหวานและขมคล้ายกลิ่นแอปเปิลเขียว คือ *cis*-3-hexenyl acetate, (*Z*)-3-hexenyl 2-methylbutanoate และ 3-methylbutyl acetate ส่วนเอสเทอร์กลุ่มรองลงมาจะให้กลิ่นเขียว ได้แก่ 2-methylhexyl acetate และ 3-methylbutyl 2-methylbutanoate นอกจากเอสเทอร์แล้วยังพบกลิ่นของเทอร์พีน ได้แก่ D-limonene ที่ช่วยทำให้กลิ่นของผลการเวกหอมฉุนขึ้น ดังนั้นจึงเชื่อได้ว่ากลิ่นของผลการเวกสุกมีกลิ่นของผลเขียวปนกับกลิ่นคล้ายเลมอน

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**Abstract**

Most scents of Anonaceae flower are fruity esters. Its flower blooming behavior is similar to the ripening pattern of climacteric fruit. Fruit of Karawek is aggregate type and sets after the petal detachment. Then, it naturally develops into the ripening stage and has strong fragrance like its flower. Thus, the aim of this research was to study the volatile component of ripe Karawek fruit. The mature green fruit was harvested and kept at ambient temperature until becoming fully ripe. Thereafter, the volatile of ripe Karawek fruit was collected by SPME and analyzed with GC-MS. The results showed that esters were predominant volatile compounds. The huge and major groups that caused an odor character of sweet and bitter fruity green apple-like ester were *cis*-3-hexenyl acetate, (*Z*)-3-hexenyl 2-methylbutanoate and 3-methylbutyl acetate while the second group was fruity green note such as 2-methylhexyl acetate and 3-methylbutyl 2-methylbutanoate. Besides esters, terpene aroma, for instance D-limonene, was also found which synergized the fragrance flavor. Therefore, it was reliable that the odors of ripe Karawek fruit were fruity of green note and lemon-like odor.

**Keywords:** fruit ripening, Karawek fruit, ester

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### Introduction

Normally, plant volatiles are synthesized and accumulate in terms of essential oils or bounded as glycoside then released with enzymatic reaction in senescing period of flower blooming or fruit ripening. Karawek (*Artabotrys siamensis*) belonging to the family Annonaceae is a native plant of Thailand. Karawek flower emits its scent when petal color turns from green to yellow in the night time. Its predominant volatile compound is ester (Padungha *et al.*, 2014) which is similar to that of Kradang Nga Chin (*A. hexapetalus*) flower scent (Noichinda *et al.*, 2015b). Ester biosynthesis in plants is an enzymatic reaction from alcohol and acyl CoA with alcohol acetyltransferase (AAT) playing an important role in this activity (Padungha *et. al.*, 2016). The blooming and scenting behaviors of Krawek and Kradang Nga Chin flowers resemble the ripening pattern of climacteric fruit depending on color changes. Moreover, an exogenous ethylene-releasing compound, ethephon, could initiate ester scent biosynthesis in early harvested Kradang Nga Chin flower (Noichinda *et al.*, 2015a). Karawek fruit is an aggregate type (composed of 4-15 fruits) and fruit setting occurs after petal detachment (Charlermklin, 2001). The differences in Karawek and Kradang Nga Chin fruits are at the fully mature stage considered by the triangular shape at astylar end (Figure 1). The color of mature fruit is green. It turns yellow during ripening in concomitance with scenting. To investigate this phenomenon, the ripening process and aroma biosynthesis of Karawek fruit were the interesting points of our research.

### Materials and Methods

The uniformly ripe (75% yellow) Karawek fruit was placed in a 100 ml Duran® glass bottle then closed with silicon cap. For trapping emitting aroma t from the bottle headspace, StableFlex SPME fiber 65 ul PDMS-DVB coating (SUPELCO®) was used and the aroma releasing from SPME was analyzed by GC-MS (Agilent 6850/HP 597) equipped with silica capillary (HP-5MS) column and oven temperature was 50-260°C. The spectrum analysis was operated in the electron impact (EI) with electron energy at 70 eV; mass range (m/z) 30-500 and EM voltage 3000 V. Volatile components were identified using ChemStation program with NIST98 library.



a) Karawek fruits



b) Kradang Nga Chin fruits

Figure 1 Karawek (a) and Kradang Nga Chin (b) fruits at mature green stage

## Results and Discussion

From our investigation, the results showed that the aroma profile of ripe Karawek fruit were esters (Figure 2 and Table 1): *cis*-3 hexenyl acetate (61%) which had a green note character-like pear and green apple (Furia and Bellanca, 1975) and is always found in the oxidation process of olive oil by lipoxygenase resulting in linolenic acid changing to *Z*-3 hexenol then turning to *cis*-3 hexenyl acetate by AAT (Kalua *et al.*, 2007) and [(*Z*) hex-3-enyl] 2-ethylbutanoate (21.84%), 2-methylhexyl acetate (0.584%) and 3-methylbutyl 2-methylbutanoate (1.34%) which had apple, green-fruity, banana and strawberry-like odor characters, respectively (Burdock, 2004). Moreover, D-limonene (2.63%) terpenoid (citrus-like flavor) was also found in Karawek fruit odor. Therefore, we concluded that Karawek fruit volatile had more fruity-green odor than those of Karawek flower that were composed of ethyl hexanoate, ethyl isobutanoate and ethyl-2 methyl butanoate (Padungha *et al.*, 2014). However, limonene was observed in Kradang Nga Chin flower volatile that synergized more fragrance (Noichinda *et al.*, 2015) and this compound is related to carotenoid biosynthesis via malonyl pathway during fruit ripening or flower senescence.

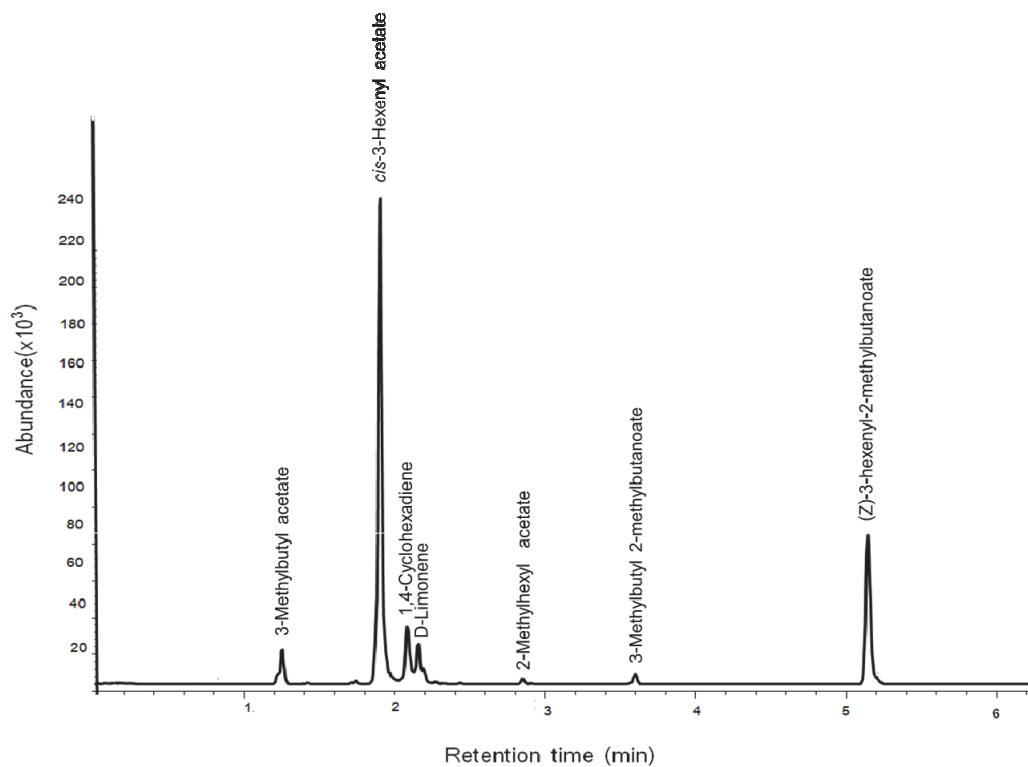


Figure 2 Chromatogram of Karawek fruit volatiles identified by GC-MS

Table 1 Ester components in Karawek fruit volatiles

| Peak | Volatile compounds                        | % Area |
|------|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1    | 3-Methylbutyl acetate                     | 4.551  |
| 2    | <i>cis</i> -3-Hexenyl acetate             | 61.244 |
| 3    | 1,4-Cyclohexadiene                        | 7.816  |
| 4    | D-Limonene                                | 2.626  |
| 5    | 2-Methylhexyl acetate                     | 0.584  |
| 6    | 3-Methylbutyl 2-methylbutanoate           | 1.336  |
| 7    | [( <i>Z</i> )Hex-3-enyl] 2-ethylbutanoate | 21.844 |

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