

# **The Plant Names of the Tai Khao (White Tai) in Mai Chau, Hoa Binh Province – Vietnam**

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This research the plant names used by the Tai Khao ethnic group in Mai Chau, Hoa Binh Province, Vietnam, focusing on the linguistic and categorization of plants with taxonomy classifier. Data was collected through interviews with Tai Khao informants, supplemented by terms from local sources and dictionaries. An ethnolinguistic approach, combined with componential analysis, was employed to investigate how the community organizes plant names.

The findings indicate that Tai Khao plant names are typically structured around three components: a core term (CORE), a plant class term (Plant class term), and a modifier (Modifier). Based on these elements, the names fall into three distinct structural categories: plant names using only the core term, those combining the plant class term with the core term, and more complex names that incorporate the plant class term, core term, and a modifier. These naming conventions reflect the Tai Khao people's deep connection with their natural environment and their intricate system of plant classification.

***Key word:*** *Tai Khao, Plant names, Ethnolinguistic*

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