Primary Production in Dry-Evergreen Forest at Sakaerat,

Amphoe Pak Thongchai, Changwat Nakhonratchasima.

1. Estimation of Biomass and Distribution amongst various organs.

SANGA SABHASRI, CHOOB KHEMNARK, SANIT AKSORNKOAE,

PADOEM RATISOONTHORN.

Kasetsart University, 1968.

ABSTRACT

The present investigation is part of an ecosystem study of a dry-evergreen forest at the Sakaerat Experiment Station in Amphoe Pak Thongchai, Changwat Nakhonratchasima in the northeastern region of Thailand. This report is concerned with an initial examination of the biomass (weight of living plant material), as one step in assessing the primary production in the forest.

Estimates of primary productivity in various habitats throughout the world are of major importance in relation to the global potential for food production. This topic is prominent in the International Biological Programme (IBP) and the present study will form part of Thailand's contribution to IBP.

An accurate and detailed knowledge of the standing crop of a plant community is the necessary biological basis of any attempt to control the productivity of that community. The results of the present investigation will provide a reference framework for evaluating changes that have occurred through disturbance of the vegetation in other parts of the study site or which may be induced in other experiments.

The investigation has also been concerned with establishing correlations between the biomass of a tree and its height and diameter, which can be used in rapid estimations of total biomass and stem volume of an individual tree form the measurement of only one dimension.