

LIST OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I INTRODUCTION.....	1
Statement of purpose.....	1
Objective of the study.....	2
Hypothesis of the study.....	2
Expected outputs of the study.....	3
II LITERATURE REVIEWS.....	4
Orchid export.....	4
<i>Dendrobium</i> Sonia cv. Earsakul.....	5
Anthocyanin biosynthesis pathway.....	6
<i>Dihydroflavonol 4-reductase</i> gene.....	7
Down-regulation of gene expression by RNA-induced gene silencing.....	8
Plant transformation.....	10
Flower color engineering by modification of <i>DFR</i> activity.....	13
Gateway technology for hairpinRNA construction.....	13
III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.....	16
Plant materials.....	16
Anthocyanin analysis.....	16
RNA extraction.....	16
Cloning of partial <i>DFR</i> cDNA from <i>D. Sonia</i> Earsakul	17
Plasmid DNA extraction.....	19
Sequence analysis of the <i>DFR</i> clones	19
Cloning of the <i>DFR</i> -hairpin RNA binary vectors using Gateway Technology	19

LIST OF CONTENTS (CONT.)

Chapter	Page
Semi-quantitative expression analysis of <i>DFR</i> gene in <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul flowers	21
Agrobacterium-based transient transformation of <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul flowers	22
IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	24
Cloning of a partial sequence of <i>DFR</i> cDNA from <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul.....	24
Expression profiles of the <i>DFR</i> gene in <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul flowers	26
Analysis of anthocyanin accumulation in the petals of <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul	29
Cloning of the <i>DFR</i> -hairpin RNA binary vectors using Gateway Technology	31
Transient RNAi mediated <i>DFR</i> silencing by agroinfiltration in <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul flowers	36
V CONCLUSION	44
REFERENCES	47
APPENDIX	55
BIOGRAPHY	64

LIST OF TABLE

Table	Page
1 Export values and quantity of Thai orchids during 2004 – 2012.....	5
2 Primer combinations for isolation of partial <i>DFR</i> cDNA of <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul by RT-PCR	24
3 Blastn analysis of the 470 bp <i>DFR</i> candidate nucleotide sequence	26



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1	The flower of <i>Dendrobium</i> Sonia cv. Earsakul	6
2	Schematic representation of the anthocyanin biosynthetic pathway.....	8
3	A simplified model for the RNAi pathway; dsRNA, double-stranded RNA; shRNA, small hairin RNA; RISC, RNA-induced silencing complex	11
4	Vector map of pSTARGATE; (Black arrows show the exchanging sites between Entry clone and Destination vector).....	14
5	Vector map of pWATERGATE; (Black arrows show the exchanging sites between Entry clone and Destination vector).....	15
6	The physical map of <i>DFR</i> primers located on the <i>DFR</i> cDNA of <i>Dendrobium</i> hybrid cultivar (accession no. FM209431).....	25
7	The <i>DFR</i> candidate of <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul derived from RT-PCR using four different primer combinations	25
8	RT-PCR analysis of <i>DFR</i> expression in <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul sepals and petals during flower development	28
9	RT-PCR analysis of <i>DFR</i> expression and anthocyanin extracts in white and purple tissues of petals P3, P4 and P5 from flower bud stages 3, 4 and 5, respectively	30
10	Quantitative analysis of anthocyanin contents in white and purple tissues of petals P3, P4 and P5 from flower bud stages 3, 4 and 5, respectively	31
11	Digestion of pENTR and pGEM- <i>DFR</i> with <i>EcoRI</i>	33
12	Analysis of pENTR- <i>DFR</i> clones	34
13	Analysis of pSTARGATE- <i>DFR</i> clones by colony PCR using a pair of primers <i>DFR</i> -F2 and <i>DFR</i> -R2.....	35
14	Analysis of pWATERGATE- <i>DFR</i> clones by colony PCR using a pair of primers <i>DFR</i> -F2 and <i>DFR</i> -R2.....	35

LIST OF FIGURES (CONT.)

Figure		Page
15	Silenced phenotypes of the flowers injected with <i>A. tumefaciens</i> strain EHA105 containing pSTARGATE- <i>DFR</i>	37
16	Silenced phenotypes of the flowers injected with <i>A. tumefaciens</i> strain EHA105 containing pWATERGATE- <i>DFR</i>	38
17	Silenced phenotype of the pSTARGATE- <i>DFR</i> infiltrated flowers	40
18	Silenced phenotype of the pWATERGATE- <i>DFR</i> infiltrated flowers	41
19	RT-PCR analysis of transient RNAi silencing of the <i>DFR</i> gene in the pSTARGATE- <i>DFR</i> infiltrated stage-2 and -3 sepals and petals of <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul at day 5 after infiltration.....	42
20	RT-PCR analysis of transient RNAi silencing of the <i>DFR</i> gene in the pWATERGATE- <i>DFR</i> infiltrated stage-2 and -3 sepals and petals of <i>D. Sonia</i> cv. Earsakul at day 5 after infiltration	43