

**International Academic Conference
Kratom Updates 2026
“Kratom Nexus 2026: Bridging Tradition, Innovation, and Evidence”
October 29-31, 2026
At Crystal Hatyia Hotel, Hatyai, Songkhla and
Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University, Hatyai, Songkhla, Thailand**

1. Rationale and Background

Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa* (Korth.) Havil.) is a native medicinal plant of Southeast Asia. For generations, Thailand has utilized kratom as a traditional remedy, a gentle stimulant, and an alternative to opium (heroin). In the past, kratom was classified as a controlled narcotic under Thai law, which prevented researchers from studying the plant's therapeutic claims despite its widespread traditional use. However, in 2021, the Thai government decided to legalize kratom and introduced the Kratom Plant Act, which eventually removed kratom from the list of Category 5 narcotics under the Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 (1979). Given kratom's long-established traditional use, the government has implemented policies to promote kratom cultivation for medicinal use. Due to the high demand for kratom leaf material and the loosening of regulations in countries that support kratom's therapeutic use, these developments have created significant opportunities for researchers to conduct more systematic research to support the use of kratom for medicinal purposes. Additionally, it is expected that the emerging kratom sector would have a major positive impact on both the Thai economy and the socioeconomic circumstances of the Thai people.

Academic and industrial interest in kratom has surged, leading to diverse scientific investigations into its chemical makeup, bioactive components, pharmacology, and toxicology, alongside efforts in agriculture, economic impact, and health product innovation. Despite these advancements, current knowledge is disjointed, highlighting a critical need for deeper exploration. Furthermore, there is currently no dedicated international forum where researchers, industry leaders, government bodies, and other stakeholders can converge to engage in rigorous scientific discussion and exchange ideas.

Given this gap, kratom researchers, together with industry partners from Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia, have played an important role since 2024 to organize Kratom Updates: an academic-based conference that aims to promote and support stronger kratom research collaborations among ASEAN members. Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) initiated the first Kratom updates in 2024. The second Kratom Updates was held in Indonesia (Bali) in 2025 and was organized by the National Research and Innovation Agency (Badan Riset Dan Inovasi Nasional, BRIN). Since the symposium is designed to be held on a rotational basis, Thailand will host the 2026 Kratom Updates. To support this initiative, the consortium also received funding from the American Kratom Association (AKA) and kratom traders in Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

The consortium has selected Thailand to host Kratom Updates 2026 for the very first time. The Faculty of Science at Prince of Songkla University, a pioneer in kratom research with long-

standing regional collaborations, will organize this event in collaboration with its consortium members.

As a leading academic institute in Southern Thailand, the Faculty of Science at Prince of Songkla University has produced many kratom experts, and, in fact, this conference will provide an opportunity for kratom researchers from Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia to participate.

It is hoped that this conference will promote kratom science, support the development of future policy and trade frameworks for kratom, and enhance Prince of Songkla University's reputation as Thailand's leading research center for kratom.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To serve as a platform for researchers to present and exchange ideas on kratom science in various dimensions, including basic science, applied science, and innovation, from both domestic and international researchers.
- 2.2 To collect and disseminate modern knowledge regarding the chemical constituents and pharmacological effects of kratom, including reliable safety and toxicological data.
- 2.3 To promote the development and standardization of kratom products, leading to value addition for farmers, entrepreneurs, and the nation.
- 2.4 To build a collaborative network between educational institutions, research agencies, government sectors, and private sectors related to Kratom at both national and international levels.
- 2.5 To support the development of policies and regulations related to Kratom based on scientific evidence (evidence-based policy).
- 2.6 To provide accurate and neutral information to the public regarding the benefits and risks of Kratom use, leading to responsible and safe consumption.
- 2.7 To enhance the academic reputation and excellence of Prince of Songkla University as a key research center for kratom research in Thailand.

3. Expected Benefits

3.1 Academic and Research

- Collection and dissemination of new, high-quality, and reliable Kratom knowledge.
- Stimulating new research questions so that proper studies can be designed to broaden kratom science.
- Promoting research publications in international academic journals.

3.2 Economic and Industrial

- The private sector can receive up-to-date scientific data, which could help them to develop products and innovations meeting international standards.
- Creating business and investment opportunities in a sustainable Kratom industry.
- Empowering farmers and community entrepreneurs with international-level knowledge and standards.
- Entrepreneurs are informed of government policies.

3.3 Public Health and Policy

- Policymakers have scientific evidence to support appropriate policy decisions.
- Public health personnel have accurate knowledge to advise and care for Kratom users.
- The public receives accurate information regarding the benefits and risks of kratom use.

3.4 Networks and Cooperation

- Establishment of a network of Kratom researchers and experts both domestically and internationally.
- Prince of Songkla University is recognized as a center of excellence for kratom research.
- Concrete cooperation between the government, private sector, and educational institutions.

4. Responsible Organizations

Main Host: Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University, Hatyai, Songkhla, Thailand.

Co-hosts: Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Malaysia. and
Badan Riset dan Inovasi Nasional (BRIN), Indonesia.

5. Target Participants and Expected Number of Attendees

The conference is expected to attract approximately 100 participants from Thailand and abroad, including academic staff, researchers, students, and representatives from government and private sectors, as follows:

- Academic staff / Researchers / Scholars: 50 participants
- Undergraduate and graduate students: 30 participants
- Government sector representatives: 10 participants
- Private sector representatives: 10 participants

6. Date, Time, and Venue

- October 29 – 30, 2026 at Crystal Hatyia Hotel, Hatyai, Songkhla
- October 31, 2026 at Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University, Hatyai, Songkhla, Thailand

7. Conference Format

The conference will be conducted in an onsite format and will include the following activities:

- 7.1 Keynote and invited lectures
- 7.2 Oral presentations
- 7.3 Poster presentations
- 7.4 Workshops

8. Implementation Plan

Activities	Early bird	Regular
Open Web / System	July 1, 2026	
Registration	September 10, 2026	September 30, 2026
Abstract Acceptance for presentation	August 31, 2026	
Abstract Submission Deadline	Until August 15, 2026	
Payment	September 10, 2026	September 30, 2026

9. Registration Fees

Type	Early bird		Regular	
	Domestic Registration (THB)	International Registration) (USD)	Domestic Registration (THB)	International Registration) (USD)
Student	800	\$25	1,000	\$35
Participant	1,600	\$50	2,000	\$70
Workshop	+800	+\$25	+1,000	+\$35

Remark:

Domestic participants are kindly requested to pay the registration fee according to the domestic registration rate by bank transfer to the following account details:

- Account Name: ACADEMIC SERVICE
- Account Number: 565-492338-3
- Bank Name: Siam Commercial Bank
- Swift Code: SICOTHBK

10. Schedule

Date	Time	Detail
Oct 29, 2026	08.30AM-09.00AM	Registration
	09.00AM-09.15AM	Opening Ceremony
	09.15AM-09.50AM	Keynote speaker 1 (Present 30 minute Q&A 5 minute)
	09.50AM-10.25AM	Keynote speaker 2 (Present 30 minute Q&A 5 minute)
	10.25AM-10.45AM	COFFEE BREAK
	10.45AM-12.00PM	SYMPOSIUM 1 Kratom - <i>The Plant: Cultivation, Agricultural Practice, Phytochemistry, System Biology</i> 10.45 AM-11.00 AM: Invited SP1 11.00 AM-11.15 AM: Invited SP2 11.15 AM-11.30 AM: Invited SP3

Date	Time	Detail
		10.30 AM-11.45 AM: Invited SP4 11.45 AM-12.00 PM: Q&A
	12.00PM-01.30PM	LUNCH
	01.30PM-03.00PM	SYMPOSIUM 2 - <i>Kratom for Pain and Substance Use Disorder, Findings from Human and Preclinical Studies</i> 01.30 PM-01.45 PM: Invited SP5 01.45 PM-02.00 PM: Invited SP6 02.00 PM-02.15 PM: Invited SP7 02.15 PM-02.30 PM: Invited SP8 02.30 PM-02.40 PM: Q&A 02.40 PM-02.50 PM: Oral Presentation 1 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute) 02.50 PM-03.00 PM: Oral Presentation 2 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute)
	03.00PM-04.30PM	SYMPOSIUM 3 - <i>Safety of Kratom</i> 03.00 PM-03.15 PM: Invited SP9 03.15 PM-03.30 PM: Invited SP10 03.30 PM-03.45 PM: Invited SP11 03.45 PM-04.00 PM: Invited SP12 04.00 PM-04.10 PM: Q&A 04.10 PM-04.20 PM: Oral Presentation 3 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute) 04.20 PM-04.30 PM: Oral Presentation 4 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute)
	04.30PM-05.00PM	COFFEE BREAK
Oct 30, 2026	09.00AM-09.35AM	Keynote speaker 3 (Present 30 minute Q&A 5 minute)
	09.35AM-11.05AM	SYMPOSIUM 4 - <i>Kratom for Mental Health and Other Therapeutic Uses, Findings from Human and Preclinical Studies</i> 09.35 AM-09.50 AM: Invited SP13 09.50 AM-10.05 AM: Invited SP14 10.05 AM-10.20 AM: Invited SP15 10.20 AM-10.35 AM: Invited SP16 10.35 AM-10.45 AM: Q&A 10.45 AM-10.55 AM: Oral Presentation 5 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute) 10.55 AM-11.05 AM: Oral Presentation 6 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute)
	11.05AM-11.20AM	COFFEE BREAK

Date	Time	Detail
	11.20AM-12.00AM	SPONSOR PANEL (Industry Panel)
	12.00PM-01.30PM	LUNCH
	01.30PM-03.00PM	SYMPOSIUM 5 - Kratom Product Development 01.30 PM-01.45 PM: Invited SP17 01.45 PM-02.00 PM: Invited SP18 02.00 PM-02.15 PM: Invited SP19 02.15 PM-02.30 PM: Invited SP20 02.30 PM-02.40 PM: Q&A 02.40 PM-02.50 PM: Oral Presentation 7 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute) 02.50 PM-03.00 PM: Oral Presentation 8 (Present 8 minute Q&A 2 minute)
	03.00PM-03.15PM	COFFEE BREAK
	03.15PM-04.00PM	POSTER SESSION (Present 5 minute Q&A 5 minute)
		03.15 PM - 03.25 PM : Poster 1 (Present 5 minute Q&A 5 minute) 03.25 PM - 03.35 PM : Poster 2 (Present 5 minute Q&A 5 minute) 03.35 PM - 03.45 PM : Poster 3 (Present 5 minute Q&A 5 minute) 03.45 PM - 03.55 PM : Poster 4 (Present 5 minute Q&A 5 minute) 03.55 PM - 04.05 PM : Poster 5 (Present 5 minute Q&A 5 minute)
	05.00PM-08.00PM	Award Session/ Banquet dinner / Closing Ceremony
Oct 31, 2026	09.00AM-10.30AM	Workshop I - Inside the sleeping brain: Recording and analyzing the brain's electrical activity in an animal model
	10.30AM-10.45AM	COFFEE BREAK
	10.30AM-12.00AM	Workshop I - Inside the sleeping brain: Recording and analyzing the brain's electrical activity in an animal model
	12.00PM-01.00PM	LUNCH
	01.00PM-03.00PM	Workshop I - Inside the sleeping brain: Recording and analyzing the brain's electrical activity in an animal model

Date	Time	Detail
	03.00PM-03.15PM	COFFEE BREAK
	03.15PM-04.30PM	Workshop I - Inside the sleeping brain: Recording and analyzing the brain's electrical activity in an animal model

Reply Form for Sponsorship Support
The International Conference: The Kratom Update Conference 2026
“Kratom Nexus 2026: Bridging Tradition, Innovation, and Evidence”
October 29–31, 2026
at Crystal Hotel Hat Yai and Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University

Organization Name

Address

Telephone No. E-mail.....

Sponsorship Benefits

Sponsorship Amount	Promotional Materials in Conference Bag	Acknowledgment on Website & E-Abstract Book	Company Logo on Stage Backdrop, Photo Backdrop & Website	5-Minute Advertising Spot	Exhibition Booth (2×2 m with 2 Tables and 3 Chairs)	Industry Panel	Excluding Registration Fees for 2 persons/Booth
30,000 THB (900 USD)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20,000 THB (600 USD)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
10,000 THB (300 USD)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Other	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

Remark: Sponsors are kindly requested to transfer the sponsorship fee to the following bank account:

Bank account details

- Account holders name: ACADEMIC SERVICE
- Account Number: 565-492338-3
- BENEFICIARY’S BANK: THE SIAM COMMERCIAL BANK PCL
- BRANCH: PRINCE OF SONGKLA UNIVERSITY BRANCH
- BANK ADDRESS: 15 KANJANAWANICH ROAD, HATYAI SONGKHLA THAILAND 90110
- SWIFT CODE/BANK CODE: SICOTHBK

Upon completion, please kindly submit the response form together with proof of payment via the following form: <https://forms.gle/jdFe7RvCtEXpG6zm6> **by October 15, 2026**

For further information, please contact

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3. Miss Thanapat Surakul Tel. +66 074 28 8079
4. Email: kratom2026.psu@gmail.com

Submission of Proof of Payment

Participants may submit proof of payment through one of the following channels:



1. By E-mail to:
Ms. Jureerat Promjit
Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University
Hat Yai Subdistrict, Hat Yai District
Songkhla 90110, Thailand
2. By submitting the response form via the following link:
<https://forms.gle/jdFe7RvCtEXpG6zm6>
3. By scanning the QR Code provided.

The organizing committee, under the Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University, would like to express our sincere gratitude for your kind support in sponsoring the Kratom Update Conference 2026 “Kratom Nexus 2026: Bridging Tradition, Innovation, and Evidence”