

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING IN THE ARMY COMPOUNDS IN THAILAND

Kritchai Sutthi, Santi Hemsri, Jittima Hiranrasami, Samart Priklang, Vira Tongpum,  
and Prangchai Settachan

Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangkok 10400, Thailand

### PROGRESS REPORT

Water quality monitoring in army compounds has been processed continually since 1989 by AFRIMS and the RTA. We monitor natural water, potable water and drinking water based on the Thai Industrial Standard for drinking water as determined by the Thai Ministry of Industry. The monitoring of waste water is based on the standard of waste water as determined by the Ministry of Science Technology and Environment. Physical, chemical, toxicity, and bacteriological properties are what we look for.

In 2004, 146 samples of natural, potable, and drinking water from the army compounds throughout Thailand were examined. The results are acceptable for chemical and toxicity properties for the majority of the samples with 24% having been found contaminated with coliform bacteria and 11.7% having color and turbidity exceeding ministry standards. 164 waste water samples, mainly from army hospitals, had been examined as a component for Hospital Accreditation. Samples were from Pramongkutklo Hospital, Surasi Army Hospital, Anandhamahidol Hospital, Krit-Sivara Army Hospital and Surasakmontri Army Hospital. The majority of waste water samples were found to be below standard.