

# Words Expressing Garlic and Dill Parts in Vietnamese and Laos Reflect Meronymy

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**Abstracts:** This article examines words expressing garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos reflect meronymy. The underlying theory of the article is the concept of the meaning of words in the system, meronymy. The survey paper has 124 Vietnamese words and 117 Laos words, reflecting the metonymy of words expressing garlic and dill parts. The research methods used by the article are the field linguistic, descriptive, and comparative-contrastive methods. The article establishes lexical gaps of words expressing garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos. The survey data shows that the linguistic picture of the word expressing garlic and dill in Vietnamese is like Laos (because the number of holonyms in Vietnamese is equivalent to Laos). However, the depth of classification of objective reality in Vietnamese is more detailed, specific, and rich than in Laos (because the number of words only classified in Vietnamese is greater than in Laos).

**Keywords:** Meronymy, Words Expressing Garlic Parts, Words Expressing Dill Parts, Vietnamese, Laos.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the thesis "Metaphor of the Concept of tree categories in Vietnamese (related to English)", author Ly, T.T.P (2012) explores in depth the method of establishment and elements of the model of metaphorical perception of tree concepts in the language expression material related to trees in Vietnamese (related to English), Learn the universal foundations of experience that enable realization through this path of movement. In addition, the author classifies the conceptual metaphor of the category of trees in Vietnamese (related to English). Based on the model and conceptual metaphorical classification, the thesis author researches the characteristics of national culture expressed through the linguistic picture of the world with the concept of trees (from Vietnamese data related to English).

Author Diep, N.T.N (2004) in her thesis "The art world in Traditional Vietnamese folk songs" has researched the origin of artistic symbols in Vietnamese folk songs, including (i) Symbols derived from beliefs – rituals, and customs, and practices of Vietnamese people, (ii) Symbols derived from ancient Vietnamese and Chinese literature, (iii) Symbols derived from direct observation of natural phenomena and daily life of our people. The plant symbols studied in this thesis are tree species (peach, plum, bamboo, apricot) and parts of plants (flowers, fruits). Since then, the author has classified and described artistic symbols in Vietnamese folk songs in many aspects such as the origin and path of symbol formation, and the movement of symbols in each unit or group of units in folk songs. Moreover, the author points out the structure and function of the artistic symbol in Vietnamese folk songs.

In her thesis "Aesthetic signals in the meaning of "Tree" in Vietnamese poetry, Anh, P.T.K (2005) focused on understanding the words - aesthetic signals (tree, bamboo, willow, pine, grass, rice, reed, duckweed, moss) of the tree meaning field in Vietnamese poetry from medieval to contemporary (2000). The thesis delved into the forms of expressive language and the meaning of literary signals belonging to this meaning field. Thereby, the author points out the transformation in form and symbolic meaning of literary signals belonging to the tree meaning field in Vietnamese poetic periods. The important objective of the thesis is to give an approach to a literary event based on applying the research achievements of linguistics.

The above works are mainly based on field theory and conceptual metaphors (Cognitive linguistics) to study plant category. Furthermore, the words expressing garlic and dill reflecting meronymy have not been deeply studied by linguists in the world and in Vietnam.

Words play an important role in languages and human life. Words are considered the central unit of language. The meaning of words belongs to the mental category, and they are expressed by linguistic signals. Besides,

Understanding the meaning of words is one of the factors determining the effectiveness of communication.

Each language of each nation may have its lexical units to describe concepts that cannot be distinguished by humans in other languages. This suggests that differences in different languages' vocabularies can lead to differences in the separation of reality. The study of garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos helps to understand the similarities and differences in the meaning relationship of this word category in the two languages of Vietnam – Laos. Hence, the cultural characteristics of the two peoples are initially described.

Vietnam and Laos are two countries in Southeast Asia. For the Vietnamese and Lao peoples, the lives of the people of the two countries are closely linked with plants, one of the common plant groups is plants used as spices. These are trees that are very close to the life of Vietnamese and Lao people.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1. Word Meaning in System**

The meaning of the word belongs to the spiritual field and is materialized through the sound shell of the word. Because it belongs to the spiritual field, the meaning of the word is always difficult to grasp accurately.

Le Quang Thiem introduced the following concept: "The meaning of a word belongs to the world of language, where language has the attribute of ethnicity, while objects and phenomena belong to the world of reality, which has the attribute of universality."; "The meaning of a word is the spiritual content constructed by the language subject, which is shaped and encoded within the word. The meaning of a word is a mental entity that is encoded and shaped within the word symbol, and it performs various rich functions in communication and thinking, belonging to different functional styles." Thiem, L.Q (2013)

Do Huu Chau believed that the meaning of a word is a complex entity with many components, in which the meaning of descriptive words predominates. Descriptive words are signals that are related to reality outside of language. Each word must correspond to some reality, object, phenomenon, process, state, quality, characteristic, etc.

Thus, the meaning of the word is not "the relationship between the two sides of the symbol" because the relationship between the two sides makes up the symbol, creating the word, not merely creating the meaning. As can be seen that the meaning of the word is what is expressed by language signals, including people's perception of objective things and also human emotions and attitudes.

### **2.2. Meronymy**

Dirk Geeraerts (2010) defined "Meronymy as follows: "Meronymy holds between pairs such as arm and elbow: the arm is the holonym and elbow the meronym." Meronymy can be identified in terms of the predicates 'has' and 'is a part of' (an arm has an elbow, and an elbow is part of the arm).

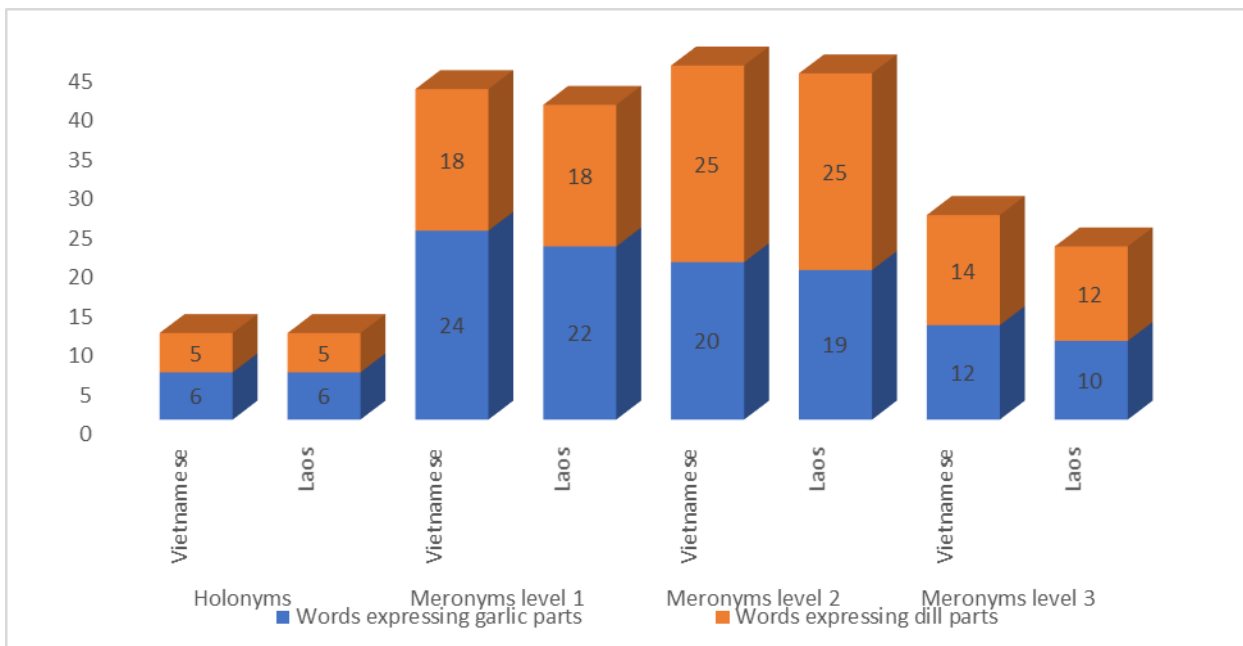
Dirk Geeraerts also argued that Meronymy is not a unitary type of relation but comprises several subtypes. For instance: the relationship between parts and the material entity to which they belong (keyboard/computer), the relation between a member and the collection to which it belongs (soldier/army), the relation between a material and the object of which it forms an ingredient or a constituent element (wood/door), or the relation between a component action and the overall activity of which it forms part (paying/shopping).

## **3. RESEARCH PROCEDURE**

### **3.1. Data Preparation**

Sources used in the article include (1) The word system for the expression garlic and dill parts in the Vietnamese and Lao-Vietnamese dictionaries. (2) The word system expresses garlic and dill parts from a biological point of view. (3) The word system expresses garlic and dill parts in the speech of daily activities of the two peoples of Vietnam

and Laos. Below is a stacked column chart showing the number of words expressing garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese and Lao reflecting the meronymy.



**Figure 1.** Stacked column chart showing the number of words expressing garlic and dill parts reflecting the meronymy in Vietnamese and Laos.

The survey results showed that the number of words expressing garlic and dill parts reflecting the meronymy in Vietnamese was 124 words and 117 words in Laos. In particular, the number of holonyms indicating the garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos is equivalent (11 words). Besides, the number of meronyms indicating garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese is more than in Laos (Vietnamese has 113 words, and Laos has only 106 words). Hence, Laos has 7 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese.

### 3.2. Research Methods

The article uses the following research methods:

#### *Field linguistic methods*

This method is used to survey linguistic materials in the languages of the two ethnic groups of Vietnam and Laos. The following methods are used: (1) Methods of recording, noting, and interviewing: To collect accurate and complete language, the topic has conducted audio recordings and interviews with elderly Vietnamese in Son La City (Vietnam) and elderly Lao people in Huaphanh province (Laos). (2) Statistical methods: Statistics, classification, and systematization from the expression of garlic and dill reflecting the meronymy Vietnamese and Lao.

#### *Descriptive method*

The meaning of words in the text/discourse will be considered the words in the text and related things outside the text.

#### *Comparative-contrasting method*

The comparative-contrasting method is one of two variants of the comparison method. In this method, one language is the center of attention, while the other is the means of study. When comparing the vocabulary of the two Vietnamese and Lao languages, the following situation often occurs: a lexical unit or a certain meaning appears in Vietnamese but not in Lao. The researchers call such absences "lexical gaps." The method of establishing blanks

is used to consider overlapping and distinct matrices on the lexical-semantic level.

#### 4. RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

##### 4.1. Research finding

Words expressing garlic parts in Vietnamese and Laos reflect meronymy

**Table 1.** The number of Holonyms and Meronyms Expressing Garlic Parts in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Words expressing garlic parts |        | Holonyms   |          | Meronyms   |           |            |           |            |           |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
|              |                               |        | Vietnamese | Laos     | Level 1    |           | Level 2    |           | Level 3    |           |
|              |                               |        |            |          | Vietnamese | Laos      | Vietnamese | Laos      | Vietnamese | Laos      |
| 1            | The vegetative functions      | Root   | 1          | 1        | 8          | 8         | 3          | 3         | 1          | 1         |
|              |                               | Stem   | 1          | 1        | 4          | 3         | 3          | 2         | 1          | 1         |
|              |                               | Leaf   | 1          | 1        | 3          | 3         | 2          | 2         | 1          | 0         |
| 2            | The Reproductive functions    | Flower | 1          | 1        | 7          | 6         | 9          | 9         | 6          | 5         |
|              |                               | Fruit  | 1          | 1        | 2          | 2         | 3          | 3         | 3          | 3         |
|              |                               | Bulbs  | 1          | 1        | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         |
| <b>Total</b> |                               |        | <b>6</b>   | <b>6</b> | <b>24</b>  | <b>22</b> | <b>20</b>  | <b>19</b> | <b>12</b>  | <b>10</b> |

According to the survey data, words expressing the vegetative functions of garlic are divided into three parts (root part, stem, and leaf part, words expressing the reproductive functions of garlic consisting of three parts (flower, fruit, and bulb). The holonyms expressing garlic parts in Vietnamese and Laos are both 6 words. The meronyms indicating the garlic parts are divided into three levels. The number of meronyms in Vietnamese is 56 words, and in Laos is 51 words. Hence, Laos has 5 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese (5 words only appear in Vietnamese but not in Laos).

##### 4.2. Words Expressing Garlic Parts with Vegetative Function Reflect Meronymy.

**Table 2.** The table establishes holonyms expressing the garlic parts with vegetative function in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning  | Holonyms   |          |
|--------------|---|------------|----------|
|              |   | Vietnamese | Laos     |
| 1            | The bottom part of the tree, cylindrical in shape, slightly pointed tip, and clustered root form (without the main root, consisting of many sub-roots of relatively uniform size), has the function of absorbing water, mineral salts, and organic substances for the tree.                     | Root       | ຮາກ      |
| 2            | It is composed of an underground stem (formed from the leaf sheaths and shoots forming a rounded mass), a true stem (the first growing bud, rounded cylindrical, hard character, white in color) and a false stem (made up of leaf sheaths, which are rounded, upright and smooth cylindrical). | Stem       | ໜົມ      |
| 3            | The part is strip-shaped, straight, with pointed leaf tips, dark green color, a strong aroma.   | Leaf       | ໃບ       |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b> |

From a biological point of view [8], the vegetative part of garlic is divided into three parts: the root, the stem, and the leaf parts. The holonyms express the garlic parts with vegetative function in Vietnamese and Lao with equal numbers (3 words). Hence, the generalization of the objective reality of the word expression garlic parts with vegetative functions in Vietnamese and Laos has similarities.

4.3. Words expressing the root part - ຮາກ of garlic reflect meronymy.

Table 3. Table Establishes Meronyms Expressing Root Part - ຮາກ of Garlic Tree in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning  | Meronyms Level 1               |              | Meronyms Level 2        |          | Meronyms Level 3          |           |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|
|              |   | Vietnamese                     | Laos         | Vietnamese              | Laos     | Vietnamese                | Laos      |
|              |   |                                |              |                         |          |                           |           |
| 1            | The part is darker in color than other parts of the root, whose function is to protect the roots from damage and rubbing when the roots hit the soil.   | <i>Root-cap</i>                | ຮາກແຫຼມ      |                         |          |                           |           |
|              |   | <i>Root tip</i>                | ຮາກແຫຼ່ງ     |                         |          |                           |           |
| 2            | The part located right on the tip of the root, is a group of meristem cells, dividing continuously causing the roots to lengthen.   | <i>Region of elongation</i>    | ຮາກເຕີບໄຕ    |                         |          |                           |           |
| 3            | The most important part of the root, which has the function of absorbing water and mineral substances, is useful for plant growth.  | <i>region of maturation</i>    | ຮາກດູດ       |                         |          |                           |           |
|              |   | <i>region of absorption</i>    | ຮາກດູດຊີ້ມ   |                         |          |                           |           |
|              |   | <i>Region of root hairs</i>    | ຮາກຝອຍ       |                         |          |                           |           |
| 4            | The part located on the suction domain of the root, which has a long tubular shape, functions to increase the contact surface of the root with the soil, facilitating the absorption of water and mineral salts by the roots. |                                |              | <i>Root hair</i>        | ຮາກຝອຍ   |                           |           |
| 5            | The top part of the root, connected to the stem, consists of conduction vessels.  | <i>Region of maturation</i>    | ຮາກພາກເຕີບໄຕ |                         |          |                           |           |
|              |   | <i>Region of cell division</i> | ຮາກຂະຫຍາຍ    |                         |          |                           |           |
| 6            | The layer of polygonal cells is arranged close to each other, which has the function of protecting the internal parts of the root.  |                                |              | <i>cellulose fibers</i> | ໜັງອ່ອນ  |                           |           |
| 7            | The part is in the mature domain, contains conducting vessels.  |                                |              | <i>Pith</i>             | ແກມ      |                           |           |
| 8            | The cell has thin walls, has the function of conducting organic matter to feed plants.  |                                |              |                         |          | <i>Conducting vessels</i> | ທຸ່່ງສົ້ງ |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>8</b>                       | <b>8</b>     | <b>3</b>                | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b>                  | <b>1</b>  |

The meronyms indicating the root - ຮາກ of the garlic plant are divided into three levels. Besides, the number of meronyms indicating the root - ຮາກ of garlic plant in Vietnamese and Lao is equivalent (both have a total of 12 words).

4.4. Words expressing the stem - ລ່າຕົ້ນ of garlic reflect meronymy.

**Table 4.** Table establishes meronyms expressing the stem - ລ່າຕົ້ນ of garlic in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning   | Meronyms Level 1  |                        | Meronyms Level 2  |                  | Meronyms Level 3 |             |
|--------------|--|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
|              |  | Vietnamese        | Laos                   | Vietnamese        | Laos             | Vietnamese       | Laos        |
| 1            | The part is in the ground, formed from the sheath of leaves and shoots forming a rounded mass.                         | <i>Pseudostem</i> | 0                      |                   |                  |                  |             |
|              |  | <i>bulbs</i>      | <i>ຫົວຜັກທຽມ</i>       |                   |                  |                  |             |
| 2            | The outermost part, enveloping the bulbs and garlic branches, characteristically thin, tough, and dry, milky in color. |                   |                        | <i>Clove skin</i> | <i>ເປືອກ</i>     |                  |             |
| 3            | The part is in the tuber, forming small branches, separated by hard shell.   |                   |                        | <i>Scape</i>      | <i>ງົມຜັກທຽມ</i> |                  |             |
|              |  |                   |                        | <i>Clove</i>      | 0                |                  |             |
| 4            | Parts that carry plant shoots.   |                   |                        |                   |                  | <i>Sprout</i>    | <i>ໜ່ວຍ</i> |
| 5            | Shoots grow first, rounded cylindrical, hard characteristic, white in color.   | <i>Stalk</i>      | <i>ລ່າຕົ້ນໃຕ້ດິນ</i>   |                   |                  |                  |             |
| 6            | The part is made up of leaf sheaths, which have a rounded, upright, and smooth cylindrical shape.                      | <i>False stem</i> | <i>ລ່າຕົ້ນເທິງໜ່ວຍ</i> |                   |                  |                  |             |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>4</b>          | <b>3</b>               | <b>3</b>          | <b>2</b>         | <b>1</b>         | <b>1</b>    |

Meronyms expressing stem part - ລ່າຕົ້ນ of garlic in two languages are also divided into three levels. The number of meronyms in Vietnamese is 8 words, but in Lao, there are only 6 words. As can be seen that Laos has 2 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese (two words only in Vietnamese but not in Lao). To designate "The part is in the ground, formed from the sheath of leaves and shoots forming a rounded mass.", Vietnamese has 2 words (*Pseudostem* and *bulb*), Lao has only 1 word (*ຫົວຜັກທຽມ* - bulb). With the denotative meaning "The part is in the tuber, forming small branches, separated by a hard shell.", Vietnamese has 2 words (*scape* and *clove*), Lao has only 1 word (*ງົມຜັກທຽມ* - scape). In this slice of language, Vietnamese has a detailed and richer separation of objective reality than Laos. Some words in Vietnamese are typical of Vietnamese culture and thinking, such as the word "garlic cloves". The word "clove" in "garlic clove" is placed in the system of words "orange cloves", "grapefruit cloves", "lemon cloves", and... The meaning of the word "cloves" can be defined as "very small parts in a tuber or fruit".

#### 4.5. Words Expressing the Leaf Part - ໃບ of Garlic Reflect Meronymy.

**Table 5.** Table establishes meronyms expressing leaf part - ໃບ of garlic in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning  | Meronyms level 1   |                  | Meronyms level 2       |                  | Meronyms level 3              |          |
|--------------|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
|              |   | Vietnamese         | Laos             | Vietnamese             | Laos             | Vietnamese                    | Laos     |
| 1            | The part develops from the upper part of Pseudostem. The trough-shaped leaf sheaths bundle together to form the false stem of the garlic plant. | <i>leaf sheath</i> | <i>ກາບກ້ອນ</i>   |                        |                  |                               |          |
| 2            | The part is composed of a thin, narrow plate, has an oblong shape, and has a single form.   | <i>leaf blades</i> | <i>ໃບລຳ</i>      |                        |                  |                               |          |
| 3            | The part is in the form of long fibers, located between the leaf blades, running straight from the leaf sheath to the tips of the leaves.       | <i>midrib</i>      | <i>ເສັ້ນໄຍໃບ</i> |                        |                  |                               |          |
| 4            | The part is composed of rectangular cells, arranged the length of the petioles.   |                    |                  | <i>Cellulose fiber</i> | <i>ເປືອກອ່ອນ</i> |                               |          |
| 5            | The part is composed of cells arranged along the axis of the peduncle, containing chlorophyll.  |                    |                  | <i>Soft tissue</i>     | <i>ແລຈຸລັງ</i>   |                               |          |
| 6            | The part is composed of cells located in soft tissue mass.  |                    |                  |                        |                  | <i>vascular bundle sheath</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>3</b>           | <b>3</b>         | <b>2</b>               | <b>2</b>         | <b>1</b>                      | <b>0</b> |

The number of meronyms levels 1, 2 the leaf part - ໃບ of the garlic in Vietnamese and Lao is equivalent in number. The meronyms level 3 in Lao has 1 lexical gap compared to Vietnamese (i.e., that word is in Vietnamese but not in Lao). With the denotative meaning "The part is composed of cells located in soft tissue", Vietnamese has a "vascular bundle sheath", but this word does not appear in Laos.

#### 4.6. Words Expressing Garlic Parts with Reproductive Function Reflect Meronymy

**Table 6.** The table establishes holonyms and meronyms expressing parts of the garlic with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning   | Holonyms      |                  |
|--------------|--|---------------|------------------|
|              |  | Vietnamese    | Laos             |
| 1            | The part grows in clusters forming a spherical crown, white, red, or light green.  | <i>flower</i> | <i>ດອກ</i>       |
| 2            | The part is black, and the hard shell each bears a seed.   | <i>fruit</i>  | <i>ຫມາກ</i>      |
| 3            | The division is in the ground, formed from the sheaths of leaves and shoots forming a rounded mass, containing sprouts and buds. | <i>bulbs</i>  | <i>ຫົວຜັກທຸງ</i> |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>3</b>      | <b>3</b>         |

From a biological point of view [8], the part of the garlic with a reproductive function is divided into three parts: flowers, fruits, and bulbs. Holonyms expressing the part of the garlic with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Laos equal number (3 words). For this reason, the generalization of the objective reality of the word expression garlic parts with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Laos has similarities. In Vietnamese and Laos, meronyms

3 levels do not appear in the word system expressing the reproductive function of garlic bulbs because this word system has been described as a vegetative function.

4.7. Words Expressing the Flower Part - ດອກ Of Garlic Reflect Meronymy.

Table 7. Table establishes meronyms expressing the flower part - ດອກ of garlic in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No | Denotative meaning  | Meronyms Level 1      |                  | Meronyms Level 2    |                     | Meronyms Level 3    |                       |
|----|---|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|    |   | Vietnamese            | Laos             | Vietnamese          | Laos                | Vietnamese          | Laos                  |
| 1  | The cylindrical part is long, has a light green color, aroma, light spicy taste, has the function of supporting the flower base.  | <i>flower stalk</i>   | <i>ກ່ັນດອກ</i>   |                     |                     |                     |                       |
|    |   | <i>Flower sprouts</i> | <i>ຍອດຜັກທຽມ</i> |                     |                     |                     |                       |
|    |   | <i>Scape</i>          | 0                |                     |                     |                     |                       |
| 2  | The part has a bulging structure, bearing the perianth and reproductive organs.   | <i>receptacle</i>     | <i>ຕົ້ນດອກ</i>   |                     |                     |                     |                       |
| 3  | The part contains the bile glands, the manifestation of pollination by insects.   |                       |                  | <i>Inter sepals</i> | <i>ຕົ້ນນ້ຳເກສອນ</i> |                     |                       |
| 4  | The part contains the calyx and corolla, has the function of enveloping, protecting the stamens and stigmas.  | <i>perianth</i>       | <i>ດວງດອກ</i>    |                     |                     |                     |                       |
| 5  | The part consists of many yellow-green pieces arranged in a circle, whose function is to protect the parts of the flower in the bud and maintain the function of photosynthesis because chlorophyll is still present. |                       |                  | <i>calyx</i>        | <i>ຊິ້ນດອກ</i>      |                     |                       |
| 6  | The part is triangular, hard, has a greenish-yellow color.  |                       |                  |                     |                     | <i>outer sepals</i> | <i>ໃບທ່າອິດຕິດດອກ</i> |
| 7  | The part contains thin pieces arranged in a circle, whose main function is to attract insects, helping for natural pollination.   |                       |                  | <i>corolla</i>      | <i>ພວງດອກ</i>       |                     |                       |
| 8  | The part belongs to the corolla, each petal is composed of thin pieces,   |                       |                  |                     |                     | <i>petals</i>       | <i>ກິບດອກ</i>         |
|    |   |                       |                  |                     |                     | <i>fused petals</i> | 0                     |



|              |  |               |            |                     |             |                                   |           |
|--------------|--|---------------|------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
|              | white, red, or light blue.   |               |            |                     |             |                                   |           |
| 9            | Composed of stamens, usually eight stamens in number, are male reproductive organs in flowers.           | <i>stamen</i> | ເກສອນດອກ   |                     |             |                                   |           |
| 10           | The part attached on the flower base, whose structure is a long cylindrical tube, slender, small, white. |               |            | <i>filament</i>     | ຂົ້ວເກສອນ   |                                   |           |
| 11           | The part is composed of two pollen cells, yellow, oblong in shape.                                       |               |            | <i>anther</i>       | ພິກເກສອນຜູ້ |                                   |           |
| 12           | The part is spherical, very small, yellow in the anthers of the stamens.                                 |               |            |                     |             | <i>pollen</i><br>(in the anthers) | ເມັດເກສອນ |
| 13           | The part located in the center of the flower, is the female reproductive part of the flower.             | <i>pistil</i> | ເຕົ້າເກສອນ |                     |             |                                   |           |
| 14           | The main part of the stigma, spherical, light yellow.  |               |            | <i>basal glands</i> | ເບົ້າເກສອນ  |                                   |           |
| 15           | The part is located inside the ovary and is composed of a multicellular mass, ovoid in shape.            |               |            |                     |             | <i>Ovule</i>                      | ໄຂ່ເກສອນ  |
| 16           | The structural part is a hollow tube, which is the path of pollen grains.                                |               |            | <i>style</i>        | ງວງເກສອນ    |                                   |           |
| 17           | The top part of the stigma, which is the place of reception of pollen grains.                            |               |            | <i>stigma</i>       | ຫົວເຕົ້າ    |                                   |           |
|              |  |               |            | <i>stigma</i>       | ຂົ້ວເກສອນ   |                                   |           |
| 18           | The part is spherical, very small, yellow located at the tip of the stigma.                              |               |            |                     |             | <i>Pollen</i>                     | ເມັດເກສອນ |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>7</b>      | <b>6</b>   | <b>9</b>            | <b>9</b>    | <b>6</b>                          | <b>5</b>  |

In Vietnamese, meronyms expressing the flower part - ດອກ of the garlic are divided into three levels with the number of meronyms level 2 equivalent to Laos (all 9 words). But meronyms level 1,3 in Vietnamese are more than in Laos. In this language slice, Laos has 2 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese. To designate "Corolla parts, each petal is composed of thin pieces, white, red or light blue.", Vietnamese has 2 words (petals, fused petals) while Laos has only 1 word (ກີບດອກ - petals). To designate " The cylindrical part is long, has a light green color, aroma, light spicy taste, has the function of supporting the flower base. ", Vietnamese has 3 words (flower stalk, flower sprout, Scape) but Lao only has 2 words (ກ້າບດອກ - flower stalk, ຍອດຜັກທຽມ - flower sprout).

4.8. Words expressing the fruit part - תרגום of garlic reflect meronymy.

**Table 8.** The table establishes meronyms expressing the fruit - תרגום of garlic in Vietnamese and Lao.

| No           | Denotative meaning  | Meronyms Level 1 |                           | Meronyms Level 2    |                           | Meronyms Level 3  |              |
|--------------|---|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|              |   | Vietnamese       | Laos                      | Vietnamese          | Laos                      | Vietnamese        | Laos         |
| 1            | The outer envelope of the fruit, which is black, has the function of protecting the seeds.                                  | <i>pericarp</i>  | <i>כַּסְיֵית הַפְּרִי</i> |                     |                           |                   |              |
| 2            | The part is black, hard, transformed by the ovule.  | <i>seed</i>      | <i>זָרָע</i>              |                     |                           |                   |              |
| 3            | The part is black, which has a protective effect on the internal components of the seed from external influences.           |                  |                           | <i>seed coat</i>    | <i>כַּסְיֵית הַזָּרָע</i> |                   |              |
| 4            | The part is located between the seeds, consisting of two cotyledons, buds, stems and germ stem, germ roots.                 |                  |                           | <i>embryo</i>       | <i>כַּסְיֵית הַזָּרָע</i> |                   |              |
| 5            | Consisting of two cotyledons, whose development is most pronounced, there are many variations in shape, color, and texture. |                  |                           |                     |                           | <i>cotyledons</i> | <i>זָרָע</i> |
| 6            | The part that is differentiated into three parts is the epidermis, the shell, and the middle pillar.                        |                  |                           |                     |                           | <i>germ stem</i>  | <i>זָרָע</i> |
| 7            | The bottom part which will grow into the roots of the plant.  |                  |                           |                     |                           | <i>germ roots</i> | <i>זָרָע</i> |
| 8            | The part stores nutrients, provides food for the embryo when the seed germinates.   |                  |                           | <i>food storage</i> | <i>מַחְסֵי הַזָּרָע</i>   |                   |              |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>2</b>         | <b>2</b>                  | <b>3</b>            | <b>3</b>                  | <b>3</b>          | <b>3</b>     |

Meronyms expressing the fruit - תריגט of the garlic in Vietnamese and Laos is divided into three levels. Besides, the number of meronyms in this slice of the two languages is similar (both 8 words exist).

**4.9. Words expressing dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos reflect meronymy.**

**Table 9.** Number of holonyms and meronyms expressing the dill parts in Vietnamese and Lao.

| No           | Words expressing the dill parts |        | Holonyms   |          | Meronyms   |           |            |           |            |           |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
|              |                                 |        | Vietnamese | Laos     | Level 1    |           | Level 2    |           | Level 3    |           |
|              |                                 |        |            |          | Vietnamese | Laos      | Vietnamese | Laos      | Vietnamese | Laos      |
| 1            | Vegetative functions            | Root   | 1          | 1        | 5          | 5         | 10         | 10        | 4          | 4         |
|              |                                 | Stem   | 1          | 1        | 3          | 3         | 1          | 1         | 0          | 0         |
|              |                                 | Leaf   | 1          | 1        | 3          | 3         | 2          | 2         | 1          | 0         |
| 2            | Reproductive function           | Flower | 1          | 1        | 5          | 5         | 9          | 9         | 6          | 5         |
|              |                                 | Fruit  | 1          | 1        | 2          | 2         | 3          | 3         | 3          | 3         |
| <b>Total</b> |                                 |        | <b>5</b>   | <b>5</b> | <b>18</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>25</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>14</b>  | <b>12</b> |

According to the survey material, words express dill with a vegetative function divided into three parts (root, stem, and leaf parts), and words express dill with a reproductive function consisting of two parts (flower and fruit). The number of holonyms that express dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos is equivalent (both have 5 words). The meronyms express dill parts are divided into three levels. The number of meronyms in Vietnamese is 57 words, and in Laos is 55 words. As can be seen, the Laos language has 2 lexical gaps that are only classified compared to Vietnamese (words that only appear in Vietnamese but not in Laos).

**4.10. Words expressing dill parts with vegetative function reflect meronymy.**

**Table 10.** The table establishes holonyms expressing the dill parts with vegetative functions in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning  | Holonyms   |          |
|--------------|---|------------|----------|
|              |   | Vietnamese | Laos     |
| 1            | The bottom part of the plant, which is cylindrical, stake-shaped (the main root goes straight into the ground and many baby roots grow around), has the function of sucking nutrients that feed the plant.  | Root       | תריגט    |
| 2            | The part is above ground, connected to the roots, herbaceous, rounded cylindrical, smooth outside, hollow inside, with grooves running along the stem, with the function of transporting water, mineral salts and organic matter from the roots to plant parts. | Stem       | עטריגט   |
| 3            | The part is alternate, crow's foot shaped with three slits, long fibrous, fragrant, used as a seasoning.  | Leaf       | לוי      |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b> |

From a biological point of view [8], the dill part has a vegetative function divided into three parts: the root, the stem, and the leaf part. The holonyms express the dill parts with vegetative function in Vietnamese and Laos equal in numbers (3 words).

**4.11. Words expressing the root part - תריגט of dill reflect meronymy.**

**Table 11.** Table establishes meronyms expressing root part - תריגט of dill in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No | Denotative meaning | Meronyms Level 1 |      | Meronyms Level 2 |      | Meronyms Level 3 |      |
|----|--------------------|------------------|------|------------------|------|------------------|------|
|    |                    | Vietnamese       | Laos | Vietnamese       | Laos | Vietnamese       | Laos |
|    |                    |                  |      |                  |      |                  |      |

|   |  |                   |             |                      |              |                  |            |
|---|--|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | The part that usually penetrates deep into the ground, keeps the plant upright, has the function of sucking nutrients that feed the plant.   | Pile roots        | ຮາກແກ້ວໃຫຍ່ |                      |              |                  |            |
|   |  | cylindrical roots | ຮາກຄໍາ      |                      |              |                  |            |
|   |  | Main roots        | ຮາກເຫງົາ    |                      |              |                  |            |
| 2 | The part is darker in color than other parts of the root, whose function is to protect the roots from damage and rubbing when the roots hit the soil.  |                   |             | Root-cap             | ຮາກແຫຼມ      |                  |            |
|   |  |                   |             | Root tip             | ຮາກເຫງົາ     |                  |            |
| 3 | The part located right on the tip of the root, is a group of meristem cells, dividing continuously causing the roots to lengthen.  |                   |             | Region of elongation | ຮາກເຕີບໂຕ    |                  |            |
| 4 | The most important part of the root, which has the function of absorbing water and mineral substances, is useful for plant growth.   |                   |             | region of maturation | ຮາກດູດ       |                  |            |
|   |  |                   |             | region of absorption | ຮາກດູດລືມ    |                  |            |
|   |  |                   |             | Region of root hairs | ຮາກຝອຍ       |                  |            |
| 5 | The epidermal cell on region of maturation of the root, which has a long tubular shape, has the function of increasing the contact surface area of the roots with the soil, facilitating the absorption of water and mineral salts by the roots. |                   |             |                      |              | Root hairs       | ຮາກຝອຍ     |
| 6 | The layer of polygonal cells is arranged close to each other, which has the function of protecting the internal parts of the root.   |                   |             |                      |              | cellulose fibers | ເປືອກອ່ອນ  |
| 7 | The cell layer has different sizes, whose function is to transfer substances from the root hairs to the middle pillar.   |                   |             |                      |              | starchy flesh    | ເນື້ອເປືອກ |
| 8 | The cell is thin walled, contains nutrients.   |                   |             |                      |              | endodermis       | ແກນຮາກ     |
| 9 | The top part of the root, connected to the stem,   |                   |             | Region of maturation | ຮາກພາກເຕີບໂຕ |                  |            |

|              |   |                      |                |                         |           |          |          |
|--------------|---|----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
|              | consists of conducting vessels that function as conduction.   |                      |                | Region of cell division | ຮາກຂະຫຍາຍ |          |          |
| 10           | The division is born from several cylindrical cortex cells (in region of maturation of the main root).                    | <i>lateral roots</i> | <i>ຮາກຂ້າງ</i> |                         |           |          |          |
|              |   | <i>Sub roots</i>     | <i>ຮາກນ້ອຍ</i> |                         |           |          |          |
| 11           | The tip of the lateral root, formed from endodermal cells.  |                      |                | Root-cap                | ຮາກແຕ່ງ   |          |          |
| 12           | The part formed on the surface of the lateral roots, has the function of absorbing water and mineral salts for the plant. |                      |                | Root hairs              | ຮາກຝອຍ    |          |          |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>5</b>             | <b>5</b>       | <b>10</b>               | <b>10</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>4</b> |

The meronyms expressing the root - ຮາກ of dill are divided into three levels. Moreover, the number of meronyms expressing the root - ຮາກ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos is equivalent (both have a total of 19 words).

**4.12. Words expressing the stem - ລ່າງ of dill reflect meronymy.**

**Table 12.** Table establishes meronyms expressing stem parts - ລ່າງ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning   | Meronyms Level 1 |             | Meronyms Level 2 |                  |
|--------------|--|------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
|              |  | Vietnamese       | Laos        | Vietnamese       | Laos             |
| 1            | The part is above ground, connected to the roots, smooth outside, hollow inside, with grooves running along the stem, whose function is to transport water, mineral salts, and organic matter from the roots to plant parts. | <i>Main stem</i> | <i>ລ່າງ</i> |                  |                  |
| 2            | Outermost parts, enveloping the stem.  |                  |             | <i>epidemis</i>  | <i>ເປືອກລ່າງ</i> |
| 3            | Branched parts grow from the stem.   | <i>branch</i>    | <i>ງ່າ</i>  |                  |                  |
| 4            | The part grows from the stem, there are young leaves facing upwards. These young leaves will gradually grow and separate from each other.  | <i>Bud</i>       | <i>ລາວ</i>  |                  |                  |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>3</b>         | <b>3</b>    | <b>1</b>         | <b>1</b>         |

The meronyms expressing the stem parts - ລ່າງ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos has an equivalent number of words (4 words). Furthermore, meronyms expressing stem part - ລ່າງ in the two languages are also divided into two levels.

**4.13. Words expressing the leaf part - ใบ of dill reflect meronymy.**

**Table 13.** Table establishes meronyms expressing the leaf parts - ใบ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning  | Meronyms Level 1   |                  | Meronyms Level 2        |                  | Meronyms Level 3              |          |
|--------------|---|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
|              |   | Vietnamese         | Laos             | Vietnamese              | Laos             | Vietnamese                    | Laos     |
| 1            | The highly developed part of the dill, which grows from the stem, functions as a platform for leaves. | <i>leaf sheath</i> | <i>ກາບກ້ວຍ</i>   |                         |                  |                               |          |
| 2            | The part consists of three-branched feathers with small vanes that resemble threads.                  | <i>leaf blade</i>  | <i>ໃບໂມ້</i>     |                         |                  |                               |          |
| 3            | The part has the form of long fibers, located between the leaf blades.                                | <i>midrib</i>      | <i>ເສັ້ນໄຍໃບ</i> |                         |                  |                               |          |
| 4            | The part is composed of rectangular cells, arranged the length of the petioles.                       |                    |                  | <i>cellulose fibers</i> | <i>ເປືອກອ່ອນ</i> |                               |          |
| 5            | The part is composed of cells arranged along the axis of the peduncle, containing chlorophyll.        |                    |                  | <i>Soft tissue</i>      | <i>ແພຈຸວັງ</i>   |                               |          |
| 6            | The part is composed of cells located in soft tissue mass.  |                    |                  |                         |                  | <i>vascular bundle sheath</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>3</b>           | <b>3</b>         | <b>2</b>                | <b>2</b>         | <b>1</b>                      | <b>0</b> |

The number of meronyms level 1,2 expressing the leaf part - ใบ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos is equivalent in number. However, meronyms level 3 in Laos has 1 lexical gap compared to Vietnamese.

**4.14. Words expressing dill parts with reproductive function reflect meronymy.**

**Table 14.** The table establishes holonyms expressing the dill parts with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No           | Denotative meaning   | Holonyms      |            |
|--------------|--|---------------|------------|
|              |  | Vietnamese    | Laos       |
| 1            | The part grows from the tops, on the stem, and on the branches, forming a double crown, and has a yellow color, and light aroma. | <i>Flower</i> | <i>ດອກ</i> |
| 2            | The part developed by the ovary of the pistil, has an oval shape, with longitudinal notches of the fruit body.                   | <i>Fruit</i>  | <i>ໝາກ</i> |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>2</b>      | <b>2</b>   |

The number of holonyms expressing dill parts with the reproduction function in Vietnamese and Laos equivalent. (2 words).

4.15. Words expressing the flower part - ດອກ of dill reflect meronymy.

Table 15. Table establishes meronyms expressing the flower part - ດອກ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No | Denotative meaning   | Meronyms Level 1  |                 | Meronyms Level 2    |                      | Meronyms Level 3    |                       |
|----|--|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|    |  | Vietnamese        | Laos            | Vietnamese          | Laos                 | Vietnamese          | Laos                  |
|    |  |                   |                 |                     |                      |                     |                       |
| 1  | The long cylindrical part, which has a blue color, has the function of supporting the receptacle.                                    | <i>pedicel</i>    | <i>ກົ້ນດອກ</i>  |                     |                      |                     |                       |
| 2  | The part has a bulging structure, bearing the perianth and reproductive organs.  | <i>receptacle</i> | <i>ເຕົ້າດອກ</i> |                     |                      |                     |                       |
| 3  | The part contains the bile glands, the manifestation of pollination by insects.  |                   |                 | <i>inter sepals</i> | <i>ເຕົ້ານໍາແກວອນ</i> |                     |                       |
| 4  | The part contains the calyx and corolla, has the function of enveloping, protecting the stamens and stigmas.                         | <i>Perianth</i>   | <i>ດອກດອກ</i>   |                     |                      |                     |                       |
| 5  | The part consists of many yellow-green pieces arranged in a circle, whose function is to protect the parts of the flower in the bud. |                   |                 | <i>calyx</i>        | <i>ຊັ້ນດອກ</i>       |                     |                       |
| 6  | The part is triangular, hard, has a greenish-yellow color.   |                   |                 |                     |                      | <i>outer sepals</i> | <i>ໃບທໍາອິດຕິດດອກ</i> |

|    |   |               |                   |                 |                    |  |                  |
|----|---|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|------------------|
| 7  | The part contains thin pieces arranged in a circle, whose main function is to attract insects, helping for natural pollination. |               |                   | <i>corolla</i>  | <i>ພວງດອກ</i>      |  |                  |
| 8  | The part belongs to the corolla, each petal is composed of thin pieces, yellow in color and fragrant.                           |               |                   |                 |                    | <i>fused petals</i>                          | <i>ກັບດອກ</i>    |
|    |   |               |                   |                 |                    | <i>fused petals</i>                          | 0                |
| 9  | Composed of stamens, usually eight stamens in number, are male reproductive organs in flowers.                                  | <i>stamen</i> | <i>ເກສອນດອກ</i>   |                 |                    |  |                  |
| 10 | The part attached on the flower base, whose structure is a long cylindrical tube, slender, small, white.                        |               |                   | <i>filament</i> | <i>ຂັ້ນເກສອນ</i>   |  |                  |
| 11 | The part is composed of two chalk cells, yellow, oblong in shape.   |               |                   | <i>anther</i>   | <i>ພິກເກສອນຜູ້</i> |  |                  |
| 12 | The part is spherical, very small, yellow in the anthers of the stamens.  |               |                   |                 |                    | <i>pollen</i><br><br><i>(in the anthers)</i> | <i>ເມັດເກສອນ</i> |
| 13 | The part located in the center of the flower, is the female reproductive part of the flower.                                    | <i>pistil</i> | <i>ເຈົ້າເກສອນ</i> |                 |                    |  |                  |



|              |   |          |          |              |           |          |           |
|--------------|---|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 14           | The main part of the stigma, spherical, light yellow  |          |          | basal glands | ບໍ່າຕກສອນ |          |           |
| 15           | The part is located inside the ovary and is composed of a multicellular mass, ovoid in shape. |          |          |              |           | Ovule    | ໄຂ່ຕກສອນ  |
| 16           | The constituent part is a hollow tube, which is the path of pollen grains.                    |          |          | style        | ງອງຕກສອນ  |          |           |
| 17           | The top part of the stigma, which is the place of reception of pollen grains.                 |          |          | stigma       | ຫົວແຕ້ງ   |          |           |
|              |   |          |          | stigma       | ຂອ້ນຕກສອນ |          |           |
| 18           | The part is spherical, very small, yellow located at the tip of the stigma.                   |          |          |              |           | Pollen   | ເມັດຕກສອນ |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>5</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>9</b>     | <b>9</b>  | <b>6</b> | <b>5</b>  |

In Vietnamese, meronyms expressing the flower part - ດອກ of dill are divided into three levels. The number of meronyms in level 1 and level 2 is equivalent to Laos (both have 14 words). However, the meronyms level 3 in Vietnamese is more than in Laos. Therefore, the Laos language has 1 lexical gap compared to Vietnamese.

**4.16. Words expressing the fruit part - ທາງ of dill reflect meronymy.**

**Table 16.** The table establishes meronyms expressing the fruit - ທາງ of dill in Vietnamese and Laos.

| No | Denotative meaning                                  | Meronyms Level 1 |   | Meronyms Level 2 |           | Meronyms Level 3 |      |
|----|---|------------------|---|------------------|-----------|------------------|------|
|    |   | Vietnamese       | Laos  | Vietnamese       | Laos      | Vietnamese       | Laos |
|    |   | 1                | The part is oval, has longitudinal notches of the fruit body. | pericarp         | ເປືອກທາງ  |                  |      |
| 2  | The part is brown, flattened, oval.                 | seed             | ເກ່ນ  |                  |           |                  |      |
| 3  | The outermost part of the grain, which protects the |                  |   | seed coat        | ເປືອກເກ່ນ |                  |      |

|              |  |          |          |              |          |            |          |
|--------------|--|----------|----------|--------------|----------|------------|----------|
|              | components inside the seed.  |          |          |              |          |            |          |
| 4            | The part is located between the seeds, consisting of two cotyledons, buds, stems germ stem, and germ roots.                |          |          | embryo       | ແກ່ນອ່ອນ |            |          |
| 5            | Consisting of two cotyledons, whose development is most pronounced, there are many variations in shape, color and texture. |          |          |              |          | cotyledons | ໃບຈາວ    |
| 6            | The part that is differentiated into three parts is the epidermis, the shell, and the middle pillar.                       |          |          |              |          | germ stem  | ຕົ້ນຈາວ  |
| 7            | The bottom part, this is the part that will grow into the roots of the plant.  |          |          |              |          | germ roots | ຮາກຈາວ   |
| 8            | The department stores nutrients, providing nutrition to the embryo when the seed germinates.                               |          |          | food storage | ທາດອຸລັງ |            |          |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b>     | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b> |

The meronyms expressing the fruit - תרנגול of dill in Vietnamese and Laos is divided into three levels. Moreover, The number of meronyms only titled in this slice of the two languages is similar.

## 5. DISCUSSION

Words expressing garlic parts reflecting meronymy in Vietnamese and Laos, both have similar numbers. The total number of meronyms expressing garlic parts at three levels in Vietnamese is 56 words, and in Laos is 51 words.

When identifying the garlic part, Laos has 5 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese. For this reason, in this slice of language, the category of objective reality locked in Vietnamese and Laos has a high generalization. However, the classification depth in Vietnamese is more specific and detailed than in Laos.

The number of holonyms expresses the dill part in Vietnamese and Laos equivalents. The total number of meronyms expressing the dill parts at three levels in Vietnamese is 57 words, and in Laos is 55 words. When identifying dill parts, Laos also has 2 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese. Just like the word expression of dill parts in this slice of language, the word expressing dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos are highly generalized when it comes to the category of objective reality, but the depth in classification in Vietnamese is more detailed than in Laos.

## 6. CONCLUSION

The article presented the concept of the meaning of words in the system, meronymy. The survey paper has 124 words in Vietnamese and 117 words in Laos, reflecting the meronymy of garlic and dill. The meronymy in this article is studied in the direction of describing the meaning relationship between holonyms and meronyms express parts of garlic and dill in Vietnamese and Laos, thereby making some comments on the expression words garlic and dill parts in Vietnamese and Laos. At the same time, the linguistic picture of the word expressing the part of the garlic and dill tree in Vietnamese and Laos is sketched. As a result, the similarities and differences in category thinking of Vietnamese and Laos people have been clarified.

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