

## Meronymy of Words Expressing Cabbage and Kohlrabi Parts in Vietnamese and Lao

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### Abstract

This article examines the expression of the cabbage tree and kohlrabi tree reflecting the meronymy between Vietnamese and Lao. The underlying theory of the article is the concept of the meaning of words in the system, meronymy. The research methods used by the article are the field linguistic method, the descriptive method, and the comparative-contrastive method. The survey paper has 116 Vietnamese words and 112 Lao words, reflecting the metonymy between cabbage and kohlrabi. The article establishes lexical gaps in words that express cabbage and kohlrabi parts in Vietnamese and Lao. At the same time, the linguistic picture of the word expressing the part of the cabbage tree and kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao is sketched. As a result, the similarities and differences in category thinking of Vietnamese and Lao people have been clarified.

**Keywords:** metonymy, words express cabbage tree parts, words express kohlrabi tree parts, Vietnamese, Lao

### 1. Introduction

In her thesis "Aesthetic signals in the meaning of "Tree" in Vietnamese poetry, Pham Thi Kim Anh [1] 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. The thesis delved into the forms of expressive language and the meaning of literary cues belonging to this field of meaning. Thereby, the author points out the transformation in form and symbolic meaning of literary signals belonging to the tree cemetery school 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. From there, the thesis author draws general observations about how a linguistic signal system belonging to a lexical-semantic field has been transformed into an aesthetic signal system - literary signals expressing aesthetic statements - poetic art.

In the thesis "Metaphor of the Concept of tree categories in Vietnamese (related to English)", author Tran Thi Phuong Ly [5] 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).

In "Perceptual Linguistics (Recording and Thinking)", Tran Van Co [3] presented the conceptualization of the world or the linguistic picture of the world. In this context, the author has analyzed some linguistic pictures of the world such as language picture with the concept of "bamboo", language picture with the concept of "flower", language picture with the concept of "banyan tree", language picture with the concept of "banana tree".

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For each linguistic picture of each concept, the author presents the concept and cites some folklore and poetry related to that concept.

The above works mainly rely based on field theory and conceptual metaphors (perceptual linguistics) to study the botanical category. It can be seen that, from the expression of tree parts, here is the expression of vegetable trees (cabbage and kohlrabi) reflecting the metonymy that has not been deeply studied by linguists in the world and Vietnam.

The meaning of words belongs to the mental category and they are expressed by the physical shell of linguistic signals. Understanding the meaning of words is one of the factors that determine the effectiveness of communication. In *Theories of Lexical Semantics*, Dick Geeraerts argues: "Meaning relations depend on the analysis of the content of the meaning of magnetism" [9, p 143]. On this basis, Dirk Geeraerts showed the relations of the meaning of words in the system, in which metonymy is addressed with a large theoretical capacity.

Vietnam and Laos are two countries in Southeast Asia. From the expression cabbage and kohlrabi division, the word system identifies two vegetables belonging to the class of two cotyledons, cluster roots. These two vegetables are commonly grown in both countries Vietnam and Laos.

## 2. Literature review

### A. Word meaning in the system

The meaning of words has the function of reflecting, expressing, and mapping reality, and thinking. Broadly speaking, the meaning of the word belongs to the mental plane, which is materialized through the acoustic shell of the word. Because it belongs to the mental plane, the meaning of the word is always difficult to grasp accurately. Meanwhile, understanding the meaning of words is one of the factors determining the effectiveness of communication.

Le Quang Thiem [8] asserted: "The most pertinent and explanatory conception of modern linguistics is associated with the problem of signal learning, which considers linguistic signals as a psychological entity with two sides: significant and signifié. Significant is the form of signals, form of linguistic expressions; while signifié is the meaning of the signal form, the form of expression in the system and activity and function" [8, p. 9]. In the work "The Development of Vietnamese lexical meaning from 1945 to 2005", the author introduced the following concept: "The meaning of words belongs to the linguistic world, but the language has national attributes while matters and phenomena belong to the real world, which possesses it attributes"; "The meaning of a word is the mental content composed by the subject of language, using shaping in words. A word meaning is a mental entity that is encoded, shaped in word notation when language and words perform diverse and rich functions in communication and thinking of different types of functional styles" [8, p. 61].

According to Do Huu Chau, "the meaning of the word is a multi-component complex" [2, 264]. Does Huu Chau mainly define the meaning of real words (descriptive words)? Descriptive words are signals that relate to reality other than language. Each word must correspond to some fact, thing, phenomenon, process, state, nature, or character,

Hence, the meaning of the word is manifested by linguistic signals, including people's perception of objective things and human emotions and attitudes.

### B. Meronymy

Dirk Geeraerts [9] defined "Meronymy" (or "partial-general relations", "semantic relations") as follows: "Meronymy holds between pairs such as arm and elbow: the arm is the holonym and elbow the meronym." [9, 88]

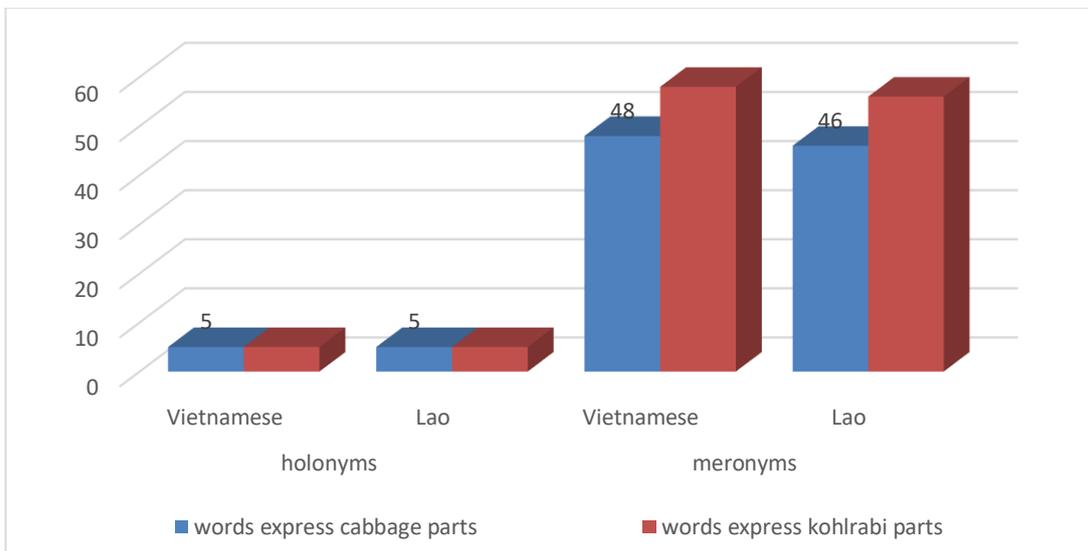
Meronymy can be identified in terms of the predicates 'has' and 'is a part of' (an arm has an elbow, and an elbow is part of the arm). [9, 88]

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). [9, 88].

### 3. Research Procedure

#### A. Data Preparation

Sources used in the article include (1) The word system for the expression cabbage and kohlrabi parts in the Vietnamese dictionary and the Lao-Vietnamese dictionary. (2) The word system expresses cabbage and kohlrabi trees in the speech of daily activities of the two peoples of Vietnam and Laos. (3) Systematic expression of cabbage and kohlrabi parts from a biological point of view. The columnar chart below shows the number of words representing the cabbage and kohlrabi parts reflecting the meronymy Vietnamese and Lao.



**Figure 1. Column chart showing the number of words express parts of cabbage and kohlrabi trees reflect the meronymy in Vietnamese and Lao**

According to the survey data, the words representing cabbage and kohlrabi trees reflecting the meronymy have a total of 116 words in Vietnamese and 112 words in Lao. In particular, the word expressing the cabbage division reflecting the meronymy has 53 words in Vietnamese and 51 words in Lao (with 2 lexical blanks). The expression kohlrabi tree reflecting the meronymy has 63 words in Vietnamese and 61 words in Lao (with 2 lexical blanks).

**Table 1. Number of holonyms and meronyms of cabbage tree parts in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Words describe the cabbage tree parts		Holonyms		Meronyms					
					Level 1		Level 2		Level 3	
			<i>Vietnamese</i>	<i>Lao</i>	<i>Vietnamese</i>	<i>Lao</i>	<i>Vietnamese</i>	<i>Lao</i>	<i>Vietnamese</i>	<i>Lao</i>
1	<b>The vegetative functions</b>	<i>Root</i>	1	1	8	8	3	3	1	1
		<i>Stem</i>	1	1	2	2	3	3	1	1
		<i>Leaf</i>	1	1	3	3	3	3	1	0
2	<b>The Reproductive functions</b>	<i>Flower</i>	1	1	5	5	8	8	2	1
		<i>Fruit</i>	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3
<b>Total</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>

Holonyms denoting the cabbage tree division in Vietnamese and Lao are both 5 words. Meronyms indicating the cabbage tree are divided into three levels: level 1, level 2, and level 3. The number of subtitle words in Vietnamese is greater than in Lao (Vietnamese has 48 words, and Lao has 46 words). Thus, the Lao language has 2 vocabulary gaps only classified compared to Vietnamese (there are 2 words only in Vietnamese but not in Lao).

**Table 2. Number of holonyms and meronyms of kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao**

N o	Words describe the kohlrabi parts		Holonyms		Meronyms							
					Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4	
			<i>Vietnames e</i>	<i>La o</i>								
1	<b>The vegetative functions</b>	<i>Root</i>	1	1	1	1	8	8	3	3	1	1
		<i>Stem</i>	1	1	4	4	4	4	2	2	0	0
		<i>Leaf</i>	1	1	3	3	3	3	1	0	0	0
2	<b>The Reproductive functions</b>	<i>Flower</i>	1	1	5	5	9	9	6	5	0	0
		<i>Fruit</i>	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

According to the survey data, the number of holonyms expressing the kohlrabi division reflects the meronymy Vietnamese and Lao equivalent (both 5 words). The meronym indicating the kohlrabi parts is divided into 4 levels: level 1, level 2, level 3, and level 4. Just like the word expressing cabbage parts, the number of words only named to express kohlrabi parts in Vietnamese is greater than in Lao (Vietnamese has 58 words, and Lao has only 56 words). As can be seen, the Lao language has 2 lexical gaps that are only classified compared to Vietnamese.

**B. Research methods**

The article uses the following research methods:

1. 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:

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 Luang Prabang province (Laos).

Statistical methods: Statistics, classification, and systematization from the expression of cabbage and kohlrabi reflecting the meronymy Vietnamese and Lao.

2. Descriptive method

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

3. Comparative-contrasting 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," "gaps," or "white marks on the semantic picture." The method of establishing blanks is used to consider overlapping and distinct matrices on the lexical-semantic level.

4. Research Findings and Discussion

A. Research finding

1. Meronymy expresses parts of the cabbage in Vietnamese and Lao.

1.1. Meronymy expresses the cabbage parts with vegetative functions.

**Table 3. The table of the holonyms indicating the cabbage parts with the vegetative function in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Holonyms	
		Vietnamese	Lao
1	The bottom part of the tree, cylindrical in shape, slightly pointed tip, 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.	<i>root</i>	□□□
2	The above-ground part, connected to the roots, round and hard cylinders, bearing the scars of fallen leaves, has the function of transporting water, mineral salts and organic matter from the roots to parts.	<i>stem</i>	□□□□□□
3	The part is flat-slabted, shape and slightly curved. The outer leaf layer of cabbage is usually darker green than those on the inside.	<i>leaf</i>	□□
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

From a biological point of view [7], the part of the cabbage tree that has vegetative functions includes roots, stems, and leaves. The holonyms denote the part of the cabbage tree with a vegetative function in Vietnamese and Lao with the same number (both have 3 words). This initially shows that the objective realistic division of the word expressing cabbage tree parts with vegetative function in Vietnamese and Lao is highly generalized.

1.1.1. Meronyms express the root part - □□□ of the cabbage tree.

Table 4. Table of meronyms indicating root part - □□□ of cabbage in Vietnamese and Lao

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The terminal part of the root, whose function is to protect the roots from damage and rubbing when the roots hit the soil.	<i>Root-cap</i>	□□□□□ □□				
		<i>Root tip</i>	□□□□□ □□□□				
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>	□□□□□ □□□□				
3	The most important part of the root, which has the function of absorbing water and mineral substances, is useful for tree growth.	<i>region of maturation</i>	□□□□□ □				
		<i>region of absorption</i>	□□□□□ □□□□				
		<i>Region of root hairs</i>	□□□□□ □				
4	The part composed of epidermal cells on the region of maturation, has a long tubular shape, lives and works for a certain time, has the function of increasing the contact surface area of the roots with the soil, creating conditions for the roots to absorb water and mineral salts.			<i>Root hair</i>	□□ □□ □□		
5	The top part of the root, connected to the stem, consists of conduction vessels.	<i>Region of maturation</i>	□□□□□ □□□□□ □□				
		<i>Region of cell division</i>	□□□□□ □□□□				
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>	□□ □□ □□ □		
7	The part is located in the			<i>pith</i>	□□		

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	region of maturation, contains conductor circuits.				☐		
8	The part is located in the Region of maturation, contains conductor circuits.					<i>conduction vessels</i>	☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐
<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 - ☐☐☐ of the cabbage tree are divided into three levels. Besides, the number of words indicating root names - ☐☐☐ in Vietnamese and Lao is equivalent (both have a total of 12 words).

1.1.2. Meronyms express stem - ☐☐☐☐☐☐ of the cabbag.

**Table 5. Table of meronyms indicating body expression nomenclature - ☐☐☐☐☐☐ of cabbage in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The above-ground part, connected to the roots, carries the scars of fallen leaves, which transport water, mineral salts and organic matter from the roots to tree parts.	<i>Main root</i>	☐☐☐☐☐☐				
2	The layer of living cells, which does not contain chlorophyll,			<i>cellulose fibers</i>	☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐		

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	has the function of protecting the stem.						
3	The cell layer is larger, some cells contain chlorophyll.			<i>starchy flesh</i>	□□□□□□□□□□		
4	The cell layer is larger, some cells contain chlorophyll.			<i>central vascular fiber</i>	□□□		
5	The division consists of thin-walled cells.					<i>endodermis</i>	□□□
6	Place to attach the leaves to the stem.	<i>stalk</i>	□□				
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Meronyms of the stem - □□□□□□ of the cabbage tree in Vietnamese and Lao have an equivalent number of words (6 words). Meronyms indicating stem - □□□□□□ in the two languages are also divided into three levels.

1.1.3. Meronyms express the leaf part - □□ of the cabbage.

Table 6. Table of meronyms indicating leaf parts - □□ of cabbage in Vietnamese and Lao

No	Denotative meaning	Meronym Level 1		Meronym Level 2		Meronym Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The part is composed of a thin, flatland slightly curved plate.	<i>leaf blade</i>	□□□□□				
		<i>Leaf base</i>	□□□□□				

No	Denotative meaning	Meronym Level 1		Meronym Level 2		Meronym Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	The outer leaf layer of cabbage is usually darker green than those on the inside.						
2	The filamentous part is long, white, herringbone-shaped, growing upwards from the petioles.			<i>midrib</i>	□□□□□□□□		
3	The cylindrical part, slightly concave at the top, is the part that connects the leaves to the stem.	<i>petiole</i>	□□□□□□				
4	Composed of rectangular cells, arranged in length of petioles.			<i>cellulose fiber</i>	□□□□□□□□		
5	The part is composed of cells arranged along the axis of the peduncle, containing chlorophyll.			<i>Soft tissue</i>	□□□□□□□		
6	The part is					<i>vascular</i>	<i>0</i>

No	Denotative meaning	Meronym Level 1		Meronym Level 2		Meronym Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	composed of cells located in soft tissue mass.					<i>bundle sheath</i>	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

The meronyms level 1, and 2 expressing the leaf parts - □□ of the cabbage tree in Vietnamese and Lao have an equivalent number (3 words). The meronym indicating 3<sup>rd</sup> level in Lao has 1 lexical gap compared to Vietnamese (i.e., that word is in Vietnamese but not in Lao). With the symbolic meaning "The part is composed of cells located in soft tissue", Vietnamese has a *vascular bundle sheath* but this word does not appear in Lao. This shows that Vietnamese has a more specific and detailed division of objective reality in this slice of language than Lao.

**1.2. Meronymy expresses cabbage parts with reproductive function.**

**Table 7. The table of holonyms reflects the cabbage parts with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Holonyms	
		Vietnamese	Lao
1	The part is yellow, four-winged, pinch-shaped, grows at the top.	<i>Flower</i>	□□□
2	The division has two pieces of shell, young fruits are light green, when old turn light yellow.	<i>Fruit</i>	□□□
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

The Holonyms reflect the part of the cabbage parts with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Lao is the same ( 2 words).

**1.2.1. Meronyms express the flower part - □□□ of the cabbage.**

**Table 8. Table of meronyms indicating the flower part - □□□ of cabbage in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The long cylindrical part, which has a blue color, has the function of supporting the flower base.	<i>pedicel</i>	□□□ □□□ □				
2	The division has a bulging structure,	<i>receptacle</i>	□□□ □□□				



No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	bearing the perianth and reproductive organs.		□□				
	The part containing the nectary, yellow is located under the base of the flower.			<i>Inter sepals</i>	□□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □		
	The department contains the calyx and corolla.	<i>perianth</i>	□□□ □□□				
	The part has the function of protecting the parts of the flower that are in the bud.			<i>calyx</i>	□□□□ □□□		
	The part is yellow, made up of four petals.			<i>corolla</i>	□□□□ □□		
	The part, which has a wavy head, the wings are separated from each other.					<i>petals</i>	□□□ □□□
						<i>fused petals</i>	0
3	Composed of stamens, which are male reproductive organs in flowers.	<i>stamen</i>	□□□ □□□ □□				
4	The part is composed of two chalk cells, yellow, oblong in shape.			<i>anther</i>	□□□□ □□□□ □□□		
5	The unit attached on the flower base, whose structure is a long cylindrical tube, slender, small, white.			<i>filament</i>	□□□□ □□□□ □□		
6	The part located in the center of the flower, is the female reproductive part of the flower.	<i>pistil</i>	□□□ □□□ □□□ □				
7	The part is located inside the ovary and is composed of a multicellular mass,			<i>ovary</i>	□□□□ □□□□		



No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	ovoid in shape.						
8	The constituent part is a hollow tube, which is the path of pollen grains.			<i>style</i>	□□□□ □□□□		
9	The top part of the stigma, which is the place of reception of pollen grains.			<i>stigma</i>	□□□□ □□□□		
<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

In Vietnamese, the meronyms indicating the flower parts - □□□ of the cabbage tree is divided into three levels with the number of words in level 1 and level 2 equivalent to Lao (both have 13 words). When it comes to the meronym level 3, Lao has 1 lexical gap compared to Vietnamese. To designate "Parts, with wavy heads, separated petals", Vietnamese has 2 words (petals, fused petals) while Lao has only 1 word (□□□□□□ - petals).

**1.2.2. Meronyms express the fruit part - □□□ of the cabbage.**

**Table 9. The table establishes meronyms of the fruit - □□□□ of cabbage in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The part that envelops the outside of the fruit, has two pieces of peel, the young fruit is light green, when old turns light yellow.	<i>pericarp</i>	□□□□□□ □□□				
2	The division has a spherical construction, small size, reddish-brown or dark brown color.	<i>seed</i>	□□□□				
3	The part has a reddish-brown or dark brown color, which has a protective effect on the internal components of the grain from external influences.			<i>seed coat</i>	□□□□□□ □□□□		

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
4	The part is located between the seeds, consisting of two cotyledons, buds, stems and cotyledonous roots.			<i>embryo</i>	□□□□□ □□□		
5	Consisting of two cotyledons, whose development is most pronounced, there are many variations in shape, color and texture.					<i>cotyledons</i>	□□□□ □
6	The part that is differentiated into three parts is the epidermis, the shell and the middle pillar.					<i>germ stem</i>	□□□□ □□□
7	The bottom part, this is the part that will grow into the roots of the tree.					<i>germ roots</i>	□□□□ □□
8	The department stores nutrients, provides food for the embryo when the grain germinates.			<i>food storage</i>	□□□□□ □□□		
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

The meronyms indicate the fruit - □□□□ of the cabbage tree in Vietnamese and Lao is divided into three levels. Moreover, the number of meronyms in this slice of the two languages is similar (both 8 words).

2. Meronymy expresses parts of the Kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao.

Table 10. The table establishes holonyms indicating the kohlrabi parts with vegetative functions in Vietnamese and Lao

No	Denotative meaning	Holonyms	
		Vietnamese	Lao
1	The bottom part of the tree, cylindrical, slightly pointed tip, clustered root form, has the function of absorbing water, mineral salts and organic substances to feed the tree.	<i>Root</i>	□□□
2	The part is above ground, connected to the roots, the structure is tuberous; As the tree grows, the bulbous stems swell.	<i>Stem</i>	□□□□□□

No	Denotative meaning	Holonyms	
		Vietnamese	Lao
3	The department has a flattened, long plate form, arranged in a spiral, the distance between the leaves depends and the characteristics of the variety.	<i>Leave</i>	□□
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

From a biological point of view [7], kohlrabi parts have vegetative functions including roots, stems, and leaves. Holonyms express the part of the kohlrabi tree with vegetative functions in Vietnamese and Lao with the same number (both have 3 words). Thus, the objective realistic division of the word expressing kohlrabi parts with vegetative function in Vietnamese and Lao is highly generalized.

**2.1. Meronymy expresses the kohlrabi parts with vegetative functions.**

**2.1.1. Meronyms express the root part - □□□ of kohlrabi.**

**Table 11. Table of Meronyms indicating root part - □□□ of kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms level 1		Meronyms level 2		Meronyms level 3		Meronyms level 4	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The vegetative part of the tree, which is relatively uniform in size, is not capable of secondary growth.	<i>Root beam</i>	□□□ □□□						
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.			<i>Root tip</i>	□□ □□ □□ □				
				<i>Root cap</i>	□□ □□ □□ □□ □				

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms level 1		Meronyms level 2		Meronyms level 3		Meronyms level 4	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
3	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>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
4	The most important part of the root, which has the function of absorbing water and mineral substances, is useful for tree growth.			<i>Region of maturation</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
				<i>region of absorption</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
				<i>region of root hairs</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
5	The part composed of epidermal cells on the suction domain of the root, has a long tubular shape, lives and works for a certain time, has the function of increasing the contact surface area of the roots with the soil, creating conditions for the roots to					<i>root hairs</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		



No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms level 1		Meronyms level 2		Meronyms level 3		Meronyms level 4	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	absorb water and mineral salts.								
6	The top part of the root, connected to the stem, consists of conduction vessels.			<i>Religion of maturation</i>	□□ □□ □□ □□ □□ □□				
				<i>Region of cell division</i>	□□ □□ □□ □□ □				
7	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>	□□□ □□□ □		
8	The part is in the mature domain, contains conductor circuits.					<i>pith</i>	□□□		
9	The part is composed of thin-walled cells, whose function is to transmit organic matter to feed trees.							<i>conduction vessels</i>	□□□ □□□ □□□
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Meronyms indicating the root - □□□ of kohlrabi is divided into four levels. The number of meronyms indicating root names - □□□ in Vietnamese and Lao is equivalent (both have a total of 13 words).

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2.1.2. Meronyms express the stem part - □□□□□□ of kohlrabi.

Table 12. Table of meronyms indicating stem part - □□□□□□ of kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms level 1		Meronyms level 2		Meronyms level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The above-ground part, connected to the roots, is composed of bulbous stems; as the tree grows, the bulbous stems swell.	<i>bulbous stems</i>	□□□□□□ □□□				
		<i>Tuber</i>	□□□				
2	Outermost parts, enveloping the trunk.			<i>epidemis</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □□		
				<i>tuber peel</i>	□□□□□□□□		
3	Parts inside epidemis, the main components are fibrous, water and nutrients.			<i>bulbous meat</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □□□		
4	The division			<i>pith</i>	□□□		

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms level 1		Meronyms level 2		Meronyms level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	consists of a ring of vascular bundles and intestines.						
5	The division consists of living, long-circuited cells.					<i>sieve circuit</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □□□□
6	The division consists of thin-walled cells.					<i>arenchyma tissue</i>	□□□
7	Branches grow from the stem.	<i>branch</i>	□□□				
8	The division is above the bulbous stem, with young leaves facing up. These young leaves will gradually	<i>bud</i>	□□□				

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms level 1		Meronyms level 2		Meronyms level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	They grow and separate from each other.						
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Meronyms express the stem - □□□□□□ of the kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao has an equivalent number of words (10 words). Besides, meronyms express the stem - □□□□□□ in the two languages are divided into three levels (Meronyms level 1, meronyms level 2, and meronyms level 3).

**2.1.3. Meronyms express the leaf part - □□ of kohlrabi.**

**Table 13. Table of Meronyms express the leaf part - □□ of kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The part has the form of flat, long, dark green blades.	<i>leaf blade</i>	□□□□□				
		<i>leaf base</i>	□□□□□				
2	The part is in the form of long fibers, has a herringbone shape, growing upwards from the petioles.			<i>midrib</i>	□□□□□□□□		
3	The long cylindrical part, slightly concave at the top, is the part that connects	<i>petiole</i>	□□□□□□				

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	the leaves to the branches.						
4	Composed of rectangular cells, arranged in length of petioles.			<i>cellulose fibers</i>	□□□□□□□□		
5	The part is composed of cells arranged along the axis of the peduncle, containing chlorophyll.			<i>Soft tissue</i>	□□□□□□□		
6	The part is composed of cells located in soft tissue mass.					<i>vascular bundle sheath</i>	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

Meronyms 1st and 2nd level expressing the leaf part - □□ of kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao is equivalent in number. The meronyms 3rd level in Lao has a lexical gap compared to Vietnamese (i.e., that meronym is present in Vietnamese but not in Lao). It can be seen that, in this slice of language, Vietnamese has a more specific and detailed division of objective reality than Lao.

**2.2. Meronymy expresses the kohlrabi parts with the reproductive function.**

**Table 14. The table establishes holonyms indicating parts of the kohlrabi with reproductive functions in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Holonyms	
		Vietnamese	Lao
1	The part is bell-shaped, yellow, often grows at the tip of the tuber, growing in bunches.	<i>Flower</i>	□□□
2	The part consists of two pieces of shell, when young are green, when ripe are yellow; dry parts usually separate	<i>fruit</i>	□□□

	themselves.		
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Holonyms express the part of the kohlrabi tree with reproductive function in Vietnamese and Lao with an equal number (2 words).

**2.2.1. Meronyms express the flower part - □□□ of kohlrabi.**

**Table 15. Table of meronyms indicating the flower part - □□□ of kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao**

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The long cylindrical part, which has a blue color, has the function of supporting the flower base.	<i>pedicel</i>	□□□□□□□□				
2	The division has a bulging structure, bearing the perianth and reproductive organs.	<i>receptacle</i>	□□□□□□□□				
3	The part containing the bile, yellow glands is located under the base of the flower.			<i>intersepals</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □□□		
4	The department contains the calyx and	<i>Perianth</i>	□□□□□□				

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	corolla, has the function of enveloping, protecting the stamens and stigmas.						
5	The part that protects the parts of the flower that are in the bud and maintains photosynthesis function because chlorophyll is still present.			<i>calyx</i>	□□□□□□		
6	The division is triangular, hard, has a greenish-yellow color.					<i>outer sepals</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □□□
7	Bell-shaped part, yellow.			<i>corolla</i>	□□□□□□		
8	The part belongs to the corolla, each wing has a wavy head, the wings are separated from each					<i>fused petals</i>	□□□□□□
						<i>fused petals</i>	0



No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	other.						
9	Composed of stamens, usually six in number, are male reproductive organs in flowers.	<i>stamen</i>	□□□□□□□□				
10	Bộ phận dính trên đế hoa, có cấu tạo là một ống dài hình trụ, mảnh, nhỏ, màu trắng.			<i>filament</i>	□□□□□□□□□□		
11	The part is composed of two chalk cells, yellow, oblong in shape.			<i>anther</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □		
12	The part is spherical, very small, yellow in the anthers of the stamens.					<i>pollen (in the anthers)</i>	□□□□□□□□
13	The part located in the center of the flower, is the female reproductive part of the flower.	<i>pistil</i>	□□□□□□□□ □□				
14	The main part of the			<i>basal glands</i>	□□□□□□□□□□		



No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	stigma, which is spherical, pale yellow.						
15	The part is located inside the ovary and is composed of a multicellular mass, ovoid in shape.					<i>noãn</i>	□□□□□□□□
16	Slender fibrous part, white.			<i>style</i>	□□□□□□□□		
17	The top part of the stigma, which is spherical, has 2 lobes, white is the place of reception of pollen grains.			<i>stigma</i>	□□□□□□□□		
				<i>stigma</i>	□□□□□□□□□□		
18	The part is spherical, very small, yellow located at the tip of the stigma.					<i>Pollen</i>	□□□□□□□□
<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>

The meronyms express the flower - □□□ of kohlrabi in two languages and are divided into three levels (1st, 2nd, and 3rd level). The meronyms level 3 indicating the flower - □□□ of the kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese is larger than in Lao (Vietnamese has 6 words, Lao has 5 words), Lao has 1 lexical blank compared to Vietnamese in this language slice.

2.2.2. The meronyms express the fruit part - □□□□ of the kohlrabi.

Table 16. The table establishes meronyms that express the fruit part - □□□□ of the kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
1	The part that envelops the outside of the fruit, has two pieces, when ripe is yellow.	<i>pericarp</i>	□□□□□□□□ □				
2	The part is small, smooth, spherical, flat or reefed, when ripe has a dark brown color.	<i>seed</i>	□□□□				
3	The outermost part of the grain, has a protective effect on the internal components of the grain from external influences.			<i>seed coat</i>	□□□□□□□□□□ □		
4	The part is located between the seeds, consisting			<i>embryo</i>	□□□□□□□□□□		



No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	of two cotyledons, buds, stems and cotyledonous roots.						
5	Consisting of two cotyledons, whose development is most pronounced, there are many variations in shape, color and texture.					<i>cotyledons</i>	□□□□□
6	The part that is differentiated into three parts is the epidermis, the shell and the middle pillar.					<i>germ stem</i>	□□□□□□ □
7	The bottom part, this is the part that will develop into the roots of the tree.					<i>germ roots</i>	□□□□□□
8	The department stores nutrients, provides food for the embryo			<i>food storage</i>	□□□□□□□□		

No	Denotative meaning	Meronyms Level 1		Meronyms Level 2		Meronyms Level 3	
		Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao	Vietnamese	Lao
	when the grain germinates.						
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

The meronyms indicating the fruit - □□□□ of the kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao are divided into three levels. The meronyms classified only at three levels of classification in Vietnamese and Lao are of equal number.

**B. Discussion**

Meronymy expresses parts of the cabbage tree reflecting in Vietnamese and Lao both have similar numbers. The total number of meronyms only denoting parts of the cabbage tree at three levels in Vietnamese is 48 words, and in Lao is 46 words. When identifying the cabbage tree part, Lao has 2 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese. It can be seen that, in this slice of language, the category of objective reality locked in Vietnamese and Lao has a high generalization. However, the classification depth in Vietnamese is more specific and detailed than in Lao.

The holonyms indicate the part of the kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao with an equal number of words. The total number of meronyms indicating the kohlrabi tree at all four levels in Vietnamese is 58 words, and in Lao is 56 words. When nomination of the kohlrabi tree part, Lao also has 2 lexical gaps compared to Vietnamese. Just like the word expression part of the cabbage tree, in this slice of language, the expression kohlrabi tree in Vietnamese and Lao both have a high generalization when the category of objective reality, but the depth in classification in Vietnamese is more detailed than in Lao.

**5. Conclusion**

The article presented the concept of the meaning of words in the system, meronymy. The survey paper has 116 words in Vietnamese and 112 words in Lao, reflecting the meronymy of cabbage and kohlrabi. The meronymy in this article is studied in the direction of describing the meaning relationship between holonyms and meronyms express parts of cabbage and kohlrabi in Vietnamese and Lao, thereby making some comments on the expression words cabbage and kohlrabi parts in Vietnamese and Lao. The survey data shows that the linguistic picture of the word expressing cabbage and kohlrabi in Vietnamese is similar to Lao (because the number of holonyms in Vietnamese is equivalent to Lao). However, the depth of classification of objective reality in Vietnamese is more detailed, specific, and rich than in Lao (because the number of words only classified in Vietnamese is greater than in Lao).

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