

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It gives me great pleasure in submitting my dissertation to Shivaji University, Kolhapur for the award of the Degree of Master of Philosophy in geography.

The present study has been accomplished under the inspiring and persistent guidance of Dr. D. H. Pawar, Lecturer, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. I am indeed greatly indebted to him for his encouragement and invaluable guidance without which this challenging work could not have been materialized in the present form.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. K. C. Ramotra, Professor and Head, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, and Lecturers Shri. S. K. Vadiyar, Dr. D. S. Shinde, Shri. S. S. Panhalkar, Shri. J. B. Sapkale, Dr. M. B. Potdar and Shri. Bhaskar R. B., Lecturer, Department of Geography, New College, Kolhapur, Dr. Avinash Kadam, Secretary, MBP Pune, who encouraged me to carry on the work.

I also express my deep sense of gratitude to the Secretary, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha and the Principal Dr. Ajit Magdum, Prof. Dr. N. D. Patil Mahavidyalaya, Malkapur, who gave me permission to pursue M. Phil. course and provided me necessary assistance in all forms.

My sincere thanks are due to Shri. M. K. Rao, Conservator of Forest (WL) Kolhapur, Shri. A. A. Shendage, Assistant, Conservator of Forest (WL) Kolhapur, Shri. R. G. Page, Assistant, Conservator of Forest (WL) Radhanagari, Shri. G. V. Harale, RFO (WL) Dajipur and Shri. J. N. Powar, Sr. Geologist, GWSDA Kolhapur for their co-operation in collection of field data. I express my heart felt thanks to my colleague who gave encouragement to do this work.

I would fail if I don't acknowledge Prof. S.R.Yadav, and his enthusiastic SRF's Nilesh Malpure, Arun Chandore, Vinod Gosavi and

Manoj Lekhak from Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur who readily help me to identify the plant species and permit me to produce some exclusive photographs of plants.

At last but not the least I am grateful to my wife Sou. Archana and my loving daughters Rutuja and Tanuja for their patient understanding and encouragement.

I am grateful to Shri. Abhinav Kurkute who deserves mention for his hard work in preparation of maps and diagrams and Shri. Vikram Bhosale and Shrikant Desai who took special efforts in neatly typing and printing the dissertation in time.

Place: **Kolhapur**

Date: 12/12/08



S. B. Sangale

Research Student