ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my first job to offer my most special acknowledgement and gratitude to my beloved guide, Prof. (Dr.) P.D. Chavan for his commitment to excellence and the highest professional standards. Who devoted whole research work for giving something new, fresh and the experience never felt before. The research work is out come of his great efforts for continuous encouragement, valuable guidance and inspiring discussions.

I am very much thankful to Prof. (Dr.) G.B. Dixit, Head, Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his constant and continuous encouragement and for providing necessary facilities to carry out research work.

It is also my duty to express my great thanks to Prof. (Dr.) B.A. Karadge, and Prof. (Dr.) L.J.Bhoale Ex-Head, Department of Botany for his constant encouragement, suggestions and moral support during my research.

I owe heavy debt of gratitude and indebtedness to Prof. (Dr.) S.S. Kamble, Prof. (Dr.) S.R. Yadav, Dr. A.B. Sable, Dr. M.M. Dongare, Dr. N.S. Chavan, Dr.V.S.Rathod, Dr. N.B. Gaikwad and Mr. R.V. Gurav for their suggestions and cooperation.

Certainly, this research work would not have been completed as smoothly and rapidly without the most valuable support and sincere efforts of Dr. D.K. Gaikwad, so this is the best occasion to express my deepest sense and special thanks to him.

I remember Late Prof. T.M. Patil for his moral support and inspiration.

I acknowledge to Dr. N.A. Rajmane and Mr. Jogalekar for cooperation during the present investigation. My deep sense of gratitude is also for Dr. B.N.Pawar, Principal, also thanks to Mr. V.M. Shendge, Head, Department Of Botany, and for all teaching and non-teaching staff of ASC College, Palus.

No one can undertake a work of this magnitude without a grateful deal of help. It would be ungracious if I would not express my deep sense of appreciation to my friends Vijaya, Jayashree, Vinayak, Nilesh, Sandeep, Swarupa, Shankar, Shivaji, Mayur, Smita, Ulka, Babu, Nivas, Sanjay, Uday, Raju, Vishwas, Vishal, Rahul, Navnath, Shakil, Vishwajeet, Abhijeet, Sujit, Niranjan and to all who directly or indirectly helped me.

The thanks are reserved to my entire senior colleagues Khade sir, Kale sir, Sadale sir, Mane sir, Jadhav sir, Mulimuni sir, Waghmare sir and all the teacher fellows.

I am very much thankful to Dr. Fernandes madam and Adake madam for their kind cooperation. On the occasion of this I put on record thanks to non-teaching staff of Botany Department and Staff of CFC and USIC Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

It is great pleasure for me to recall my warm feelings for my parents. Words cannot express my feelings of gratitude towards my father and mother for all the unusual ways in which they have helped me and given emotional support and for providing the most favorable environment for my entire education.

Last but not least I express my great sense of gratitude to all my well wishers.

Amol Vasant Patil