

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been accompanied and supported by many people during my research work. It is my great honour to offer vote of thanks to all those people who helped me directly and indirectly to complete this dissertation.

First of all, it is my sole hearted gratitude towards Dr. B.D. Patil, Reader in Botany, S.G.M. College, Karad for continuously encouraging me during my work. I also thankful to him for his time to time expertise opinions, supervision and continuous guidance throughout my dissertation work.

I am very much thankful to Dr. S. T. Tilak, Dr. S. B. Jogdand, Dr. S. S. Kamble, Dr. V. P. Khandekar and Dr. A. V. Karne for their valuable guidance, suggestions and intensive help during preparation of this dissertation.

I am very much grateful to offer my sincere thanks to Dr. G. B. Dixit, Head of the Dept. of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur and Dr. P. D. Chavan for his inspiration and providing the Departmental laboratory and library facility during the research work.

I also wish to thank Dr. A. S. Bhoite, principal, Y.C.I.S, Satara, for providing facilities to work in college laboratory. I deem it my pleasant duty to offer thanks to Dr. V. P. Khandekar, Head of the dept. of Botany, Y.C.I.S. Satara, for his guidance through this research project. I am also thankful to Dr. S. H. Mahamulkar, Shree. D. A. Kadam, Shree. P. R. Patil, Dr. A. B. Pawar, Dr. R. B. Thoke, Dr. B.A. Kore, Dr. C. T. Karande, Dr. V. C. Karande, Dr. D. N. Jadhav, Shree. Y. T. Shinde, Shree. R. B. Dhage, Shree. S. S. Gaikwad, Abhijeet Kadam and Sandip Borge for their support, encouragement and technical help.

It is my pleasant duty to offer my sincere thanks to Dr. M. M. Rajmane, Principal, S. G. M. College, Karad, for providing facilities to work in college laboratory. I also thank to Dr. S. D. Sankpal (Former H. O. D. of Botany), Shree. V. B. Jadhav, Head of the Botany Dept., Dr. A. B. Kamble, Dr. B. J. Patil, Shree. B.D. Mohite and Mrs. M.V. Kishoree for their useful guidance, suggestions and critical discussions.

I wish to thank to Agriculture Research Station, Karad for providing me the meteorological data whenever I needed. Thanks to all members of Taluka Seed Farm for allowing me to do my experiments in this region, guidance and assistance.

I am also very much thankful to all my colleagues working at Y.C.I.S. Satara, S.G.M. College, Karad and Shivaji University research lab for their continuous support and discussion of their research experience with me throughout my research work. I would like to send my love to my colleagues cum friends, Suvarta, Tejasvini, Kedar, Dhanaji, Ashwini, Vishal, and Pranali who provided me a very friendly and encouraging environment, shared their knowledge and stood behind me whenever I needed, bear my great appreciations.

I gratefully acknowledge the help done by non teaching staff from Y.C.I.S. Satara and S.G.M. College Karad, Mr. Khan, Mr. Avaghade, Mr. Mane, Jagtap, Patole, Shedge, Pawar, Ingawle and Mali.

My special thanks to Dr. R. A. Kumbhar, lecturer, S.G.M.College, Karad for continuously encouraging me during my work. I further would like to mention Impulse Computer and the staff members of institute, for their valuable help in preparation of my dissertation work.

Last, but not list, I am very much thankful to my parents, my husband Mr. Rahul Ashok Jadage, for arising positive attitude and spiritual encouragement. Because of these feelings I must say that it is not the end, but the beginning of new horizons for me. I am also thankful to all my relatives and best wishers for their direct and indirect support. Finally I would like to send my love to my brother, sister, parents and husband for their endless love and trust.

Sunita Pirgonda Patil.