ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to my judicious and critical research guide, **Dr. T. V. Sathe**, Reader in Entomology, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur which led to successful completion of this work.

I am obliged to **Prof. Dr. S.G. Nanaware**, Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his encouragement and providing facilities during the tenure of this work.

My sincere thanks are due to **U.G.C.**, **New Delhi** for awarding me Teacher's Fellowship under 9th plan and Principal, **Dr. S.B. Salunkhe**, Mudhoji College, Phaltan for encouragement and help during the course of this study.

I am very much grateful to **Dr. Mahadev P.V.** and **Dr. Mourya, D.T.**, Assistant Directors, National Institute of Virology, Pune for their valuable discussions, advice and support to this work.

I am also thankful to **Dr. Bhosale A.S.**, Senior Entomologist, Maharashtra State National Malaria Control Programme, Pune, **Dr. A.S. Mahabal**, Deputy Director and **Dr. R.M. Sharma**, Assistant Zoologist, Zoological Survey of India, Pune for their valuable suggestions and fruitful discussions.

I am specially indebted to **Dr. A. B. Patil**, Assistant Director, National Malaria Control Programme, Kolhapur and his office staff, **Mr. Phadtare S.S.** for their help by several ways.

My sincere thanks are also due to **the Librarians**, National Institute of Virology, Pune, Zoological Survey of India, Pune and Shivaji University, Kolhapur for providing library facilities.

I am also thankful to Dr. V. A. Sawant, Prof. (Mrs.) M.M. Pillai, Dr. J.J. Pol and Dr. G.P. Bhawane, Dept. of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for academic discussions and their help.

I sincerely acknowledge the help extended by Dr. A.D. Jadhav, Dr. Bhoje P.M., Dr. Bhosale Y.A., Mr. Pandharbale A.R., Mr. S.S. Gaikwad, Miss Jinni S. Deshmane, Mrs. Bhosale R.J. during my research work.

I appreciate and extend sincere thanks to Mr. D.S. Phatak and Mr. Sadanand Sutar for prompt computer typing and skillful microscopic photography respectively.

Thanks are also due to teachers and non-teachers of Zoology Department, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for their help in many ways,

I must record my feeling and deep gratitude to my father, mother and other family members specially my wife, Mrs. Sangita and my brother-in-law who always encouraged me and shouldered all the responsibilities in my absence.

Lastly, I thank all my well wishers.

B. E. GIRHE