

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my first job to offer my most special acknowledgement and gratitude to my beloved guide, Dr. V.S. Rathod for her commitment to excellence and the highest professional standard, who devoted whole research work for giving something new, fresh and the experience never felt before. The research work is outcome of her great efforts for continuous encouragement, valuable guidance and inspiring discussions.

I am very much thankful to Prof. (Dr.) S.S. Kamble 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.) G.B. Dixit, and Prof. (Dr.) B.A. Karadge, 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.) P.D. Chavan, Prof. (Dr.) S.R. Yadav, Prof. (Mrs.) A.B. Sable, Dr. (Mrs.) M.M. Dongare, Dr. (Mrs.) N.S. Chavan, Dr. D.K. Gaikwad, Dr. N.B. Gaikwad, Dr. R.V. Gurav and Dr. (Smt.) K.B. Pawar for their suggestions and co-operation.

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 Sujata, Anita, Latika, Meenakshi, Ujawala, Vaishali, Firdose, Megha, Kranti, Parthraj, Shrikant, Vishal, Babu, Uday, Vinod, Jay, Shakil, Sajid, Nirwas, Sachin, Santosh and to all who directly or indirectly helped me.

I am very much thankful to Dr (Smt). Fernandes and (Mr.) Powar 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 , USIC and library of Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

I am also thankful to Mr. Moholkar S.M., Mr. Yadav U.S., Mr. Ramteke P.K. Department of Botany, Raja Shriprao Bhagvantarao Mahavidyalaya, Aundh for suggestions and moral support during my research work.

It is great pleasure for me to recall my warm feelings for my parents. Words cannot express my feelings of gratitude towards my parents Aai, Bhai, sister Archana and brother Sagar 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. I am also thankful to Deshmukh family, Shinde family and Kharade family.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge the unfailing support and steady encouragement that I received from my beloved husband 'Sambhaji'.

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

Ms. Swati Ramchandra Deshmukh