

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my deepest heartfelt thanks to my guide Dr. S. D. Sankpal for accepting me as his M.phil student, for his competent supervision, continuous support to this work. His excellent academic guidance, his useful insights into interpreting my experimental results, his warm personality and encouraged me and furthered my development as a scientific researcher. During the preparation of this dissertation, I always felt his support and guidance. I have something interesting to say that, he reminding me every time that my research should always be useful and serve good purposes for all humankind.

I am very much indebted to Dr. B. A. Karadge, Dr. P. D. Chavan, Mrs. Dr. A. Sable and Dr. D. K. Gaikwad for their valuable guidance, suggestions and intensive help during preparation of this dissertation.

It is my pleasant duty to offer my sincere thanks to Dr. G. B. Dixit, Head of the dept. of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his inspiration and providing the Departmental laboratory and library facility during the research work.

I 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 also thank shree. D. A. Kadam for his useful insights into preparation of dissertation. This work would be greatly diminished without the statistical help of Dr. C. T. Karande. I particularly appreciate Dr. N. B. Pandhure for their nice photography of my experimental results. Thank you to Dr. S. H. Mahamulkar, Dr. A. B. Pawar, Dr. R. B. Thoke, Shree. P. R.

Patil, Dr. B. A. Kore, Dr. V. C. Karande, Dr. D. N. Jadhav, Shree. Y. T. Shinde, Shree. R. B. Dhage, Shree. S. Gaikwad, Abhijeet Kadam and Sandip Borge for generously support encouragement, good humor and technical help.

I am also greatly indebted to Dr. M. M. Rajmane, principal of S. G. M. College, Karad, for providing facilities to work in college laboratory. Shree. V. B. Jadhav, Head of the Botany dept. Dr. B. D. Patil, Dr. A. B. Kamble, Dr. B. J. Patil, Shree. B. D. Mohite and Mrs. Vandana Kishore for their useful suggestions and critical discussions. I would also thanks to Mrs. Niranjana Sankpal for useful insights into interpreting my photoplates and graphs of experimental results.

I wish to thank to Nimbkar Agriculture Research Institute for providing me the seeds of safflower cultivars whenever I needed for experimental use. Thanks to, Nimbkar, N. and A. K. Rajvanshi, Dr. Vrijendra Singh, Mr. M. B. Deshpande and all the staff members of the NARI for their support, guidance and assistance.

I would also like to most sincerely thank all my colleagues working at Y.C.I.S and Shivaji University research lab for their continuous support and share their research experience with me throughout my research work. I would like to send my love to my colleagues cum friends, Kedar, Damaji, Ashwini, Archana, Uday, Sachin and Erfan who provided me a very friendly and encouraging environment, shared their knowledge and stood behind me whenever I needed, bear my great appreciations. They should be aware of that they will not be forgotten ever.

I gratefully acknowledge the help rendered by non teaching staff from Y.C.I.S., Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Avaghade, Dada, Patole, Shedge, Pawar and Mali.

Last, but not least, I thank my family: my parents, for giving me life in the first place, for educating me with aspects from both arts and sciences, for unconditional support and encouragement, although he is far away. Finally I would like to send my love to my brothers and sis, Kishor, Vishal, Raju, Sandip, Vicky, Sheetal, Seema and Shubhangi for their endless love and trust.



Mr. Mahadik Vijay Bharat

(Research Student)