ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Words fail to express one's feelings. However, with insufficient words to express my deep sense of gratitude towards my respectable teacher and research guide Dr. T.M. Patil who has guided me with parental care and affection. This work is an outcome of his precious guidance, constant encouragement and unstinted help. The words are indeed very few to express my gratitude and respect towards him. Occassional, affectionate assurance frespectable madam Mrs. T.M. Patil also reassured me during diffficult times.

I also carry my high sense of gratitude to Professor Dr. M.S. Patil, Head. Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur and Professor Dr. B.A. Hegde former Head of the Department for their constant encouragement and for providing all the research facilities in the department.

I also express my high sense of gratitude towards all the faculty members of Botany

Department for their kind co-operation and timely help in all respect.

I am very much grateful to Prof. Dr. A.M. Kale, Principal Agriculture college, Kolhapur for providing the seeds and plant material and timely help in all respect. I wish my sincere thanks to Mrs. S.A. Desai Head of the Botany department, GKG College, Kolhapur for the constant co-operation and the kind help she offered everytime.

I acknowledge with gratitude P. Neuman, University of Texas, Austin for providing standard phenolic compounds.

My sincere thanks also goes to National Research Centre for Soybean (ICAR) Indore and University of Agriculture, Dharwad for providing recent literature and library facilities.

I also take this oportunity to thank all my research colleagues in the department for extending their help in completing this work. I also acknowledge with thanks the friendly co-operation and help rendered by all non-teaching staff of botany department.

I am thankful to Mr. Dige for providing a quick computer typing facilities and special thanks to Heena and Yasmeen for helping me a lot in completion of graphs and other assistance they kindly offered.

Last but not the least I owe my debt to my beloved father and grandmother who have done their best to shape my career. My deep sense of appreciation is also due to my husband Mr. Sagar Patil who helped and encouraged me a lot to complete this task. I am also thankful to all other family members including my daughter Sejal, for their co-operation to complete this piece of work.

Date : 29/6/1999

Place: Kolhapul. Candidate