

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude, too great to be expressed in words and yet too intense to be expressed, to Dr.B.K.Pawar, Reader, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for invaluable suggestions, guidance and inspiration received from him, through out the investigation.

It is with great pleasure that I offer my vast indebtedness and heart-felt gratitude to my esteemed teacher Dr.A.T.Varute, Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. He has been great source of inspiration in tackling this field of enquiry into which I was not initiated earlier.

I express my sincere gratitude towards Dr.V.A.Sawant, Dr.N.K.More, Dr.G.P.Bhawane, Department of Zoology, for extending a helping hand whenever I required and for giving valuable advice to overcome the obstacles encountered during this research work.

I am immensely indebted to my friends Shri R.F.Bhalerao and Shri R.K.Bhanott, Department of Zoology, for all kinds of assistance, co-operation and encouragement during the course of this study. I should like to thank and express my gratitude towards, teaching and non-teaching staff of Zoology Department for their kind help in various ways.

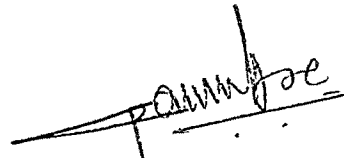
I deem it my pleasant duty to offer thanks to Secretary, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara and Prin.T.K.Pawar, Dahiwadi College, Dahiwadi, for granting me study leave and showing keen

Conti..

interest in my work. Thanks are also extended to the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, for awarding me a Teacher Fellowship under the Faculty Improvement Programme during 1989-90 which enable me to complete this work. I must mention my sincere thanks to the authorities of the Shivaji University, Kolhapur for making all the facilities available for my work.

I may be failing in my duty, if I do not place on record my deepest gratitude to my family members who inspired me for higher studies.

Finally, let me sieze this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those sacrificed specimens who were kind enough to spare the outstanding high risk of their lives for this investigation without whose help this investigation would not have seen the light of this day.


(C.P.OMBASE)

Kolhapur

August 8 , 1990.