

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I gratefully acknowledge Prof. S.K.Srivastava for his guidance throughout the course of investigations. I am thankful to Dr. (Miss) B. I. Naik for her kind cooperation. Thanks are also due to my parents and friends for their constant encouragement and help.

This work was supported by a grant given to Prof. S.K. Srivastava from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi.