ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With a deep sense of gratitude I express my sincere thanks to Dr. G. Prathapasenan for his valuable guidance and constant encouragement throughout these investigations. My thanks are also due to Prof. C. H. Pathak for his help and encouragement. I am thankful to Prof. A. R. Mehta, Head, Department of Botany, M. S. University of Baroda, Baroda for providing necessary facilities. I am also grateful to Prof. S. D. Sabnis, Dr. S. N. Padate and Dr. R. P. Bhatt for their keen interest. My thanks are also due to Mr. M. C. Kulkarni for attending to the day-to-day problems in the laboratory and to Mr. P. S. Bhoite for his neat typing of this thesis.

I am thankful to all my colleagues and friends who helped me for the successful completion of this work.

The award of Junior Research Fellowship by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi is gratefully acknowledged.

Subhash, N.

Plant Physiology Lab., Department of Botany, Faculty of Science, M.S. University of Baroda, BARODA-390 002.