ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is highly grateful to Dr. S. M. Das (Professor and Head, Post. Graduate Dept. of Zoology, J&K University, Srinagar, Kashmir), who suggested the subject of research and guided the work throughout the period of present investigations.

Thanks are due to the University Grants Commission, which gave financial assistance by sanctioning Junior research scholarship for a period of three years. My sincere thanks are due to the Head of the Post Graduate Deptt. of Zoology for providing facilities to carry out the present investigations.

The author offers thanks to the International Documentation Centre, Govt. of India; New Delhi, which helped in supply of photostats of literature from all over the world. Thanks to the authorities concerned of J & K University for permitting the use of the Central Library of the University. I am thankful to Head of the P.G. Deptt. of Zoology for giving me elaborate references-papers, books and reprints appertaining to the topic of the thesis, a large number of which were from his personal library.

In the end the author would like to thank the Director Fisheries; J & K state, who helped in getting specimens of brown trout from the hatcheries at Dabhigam, Harvan, and Achabal.