ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My all praise and thanks to the Almighty God, the Lord and the Cherisher of all the world Who taught human-kind everything that they knew not.

First and foremost, I must gratefully record my indebtedness to all the eminent authorities, scholars and researchers whose works I have consulted and whose ideas and insights have richly contributed to give a shape to this study.

I feel pleasure to express my indebtedness and gratitude to my respected supervisor, Dr. Nafees Ahmad Khan, Lecturer, Department of Botany, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for his keen interest, enthusiastic support, valuable guidance and constant supervision. Despite his busy schedule, he gave me liberty to encroach upon his valuable time to complete my work.

I must register my sincere thanks to Prof. Samiullah, Chairman and Late Prof. M. Wajid Khan, Former Chairman, Department of Botany, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for providing necessary facilities during the work.

I would like to place on record my profound thanks to teachers, Drs. Aqil Ahmad, Arif Inam, Firoz Mohammad and M.M.A. Khan for their support.

I have no words to express my thanks to Drs. Moinuddin Khan, Shamsul Hayat, Mohd. Mobin, Arshad Hussain; Messers M. Zaki Azam, Qazi Faridudin, Sheikh Javid, Fayaz A. Sheikh, Showkat Hussain, Irfan Ahmad,
Perveiz M. Lone, Ms. Afroza Akhtar, Ms. Rotuba Shaheen, Ms. Shahla Saeed, Ms. Lalita Gupta and all other research scholars of Plant Physiology Section for their well timely help and support in every respect, without which the task was impossible.

I would miss my duty if I do not make a mention of Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone for his unforgettable help and encouragement.

The acknowledgement will remain incomplete without heartiest thanks to all my friends who provided me motivation, encouragement and moral support in completing this work. Thanks are due to Drs. Anees Ahmad, Jahangeer Iqbal, Mehrajudin and Messers Syed A. Untoo, Mushtaq Ahmad, Ab. Hamid Mir, Aamil Ahmad and also to Dr. Amina Mir and Ms. Ulfat Jabeen, all of them have contributed a lot towards a fruitful completion of the work.

I am also grateful to Mr. Rais Ahmad Khan for extending adept services on computer for typing the manuscript.

To save the best for last, I thank my parents, brothers, sisters and all the other family members for their love, support and constant encouragement without which this work would have not existed.

(Mohmad Ramzan Mir)