ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In submitting this thesis, I would be failing in my duties, if I do not express my sincere gratitude and heartfelt respect towards the educational luminaries, but for whose guidance and help, it would not have been possible to present this humble research work in its present form.

This thesis, the outcome of my research is solely, due to the enlightening and ever-encouraging guidance extended by Dr. (Mrs.) S.S. Bapat, Reader in Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

I express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. R. Nagabhushanam, Professor and Head of the Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, who provided me with all the facilities in conducting this research.

The fellowship and the aid given under the scheme 'Grant for support of Research in University during Fifth plan period', by Marathwada University, have greatly boosted my research work going smoothly.
Thanks are due to the authorities of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, New Delhi, and Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Bombay for providing Library facilities and necessary references.

The neat and clean presentation of this thesis is the result of tireless efforts taken by Mr. Nitin Nikam in typing and the neat drawings given by my friend Dr. Uday Deshpande for whom the expression of thanks would be a formality.

Last but not the least, I submit my humble prayers to "Him" for making my efforts a success.

Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, Aurangabad 431004.

January 1984

(SUNIL S. KULKARNI)