ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My first and foremost thanks with deepest sense of gratitude go to my revered supervisor Prof. B.P.Nautiyal, Head, Department of Horticulture, Aromatic and Medicinal Plants (HAMP), Mizoram University, for his constant encouragement, invaluable help and dynamic guidance and my Joint supervisor Dr. K.K.Sarma, Scientist ‘SF’, North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC), Umiam, Shillong for his valuable advice and untiring guidance make this work a success.

I express my profound gratitude to Prof. P. Rinawma, Dean, and all other faculty members of School of Earth Sciences and Natural Resources Management for their untiring help and advice in all possible way throughout my work.

I offer my sincere thanks to Prof. A.C.Shukla, Dr. (Ms) Nuchhungi Khawlhring, Asst. Professor, Dr. T.K.Hazarika, Asst. Professor and all other faculty members of Department of Horticulture, Aromatic and Medicinal Plants, Mizoram University for rendering their valuable help and guidance throughout my work.

I am very grateful to Dr. Vanlalzara, Chief Scientific Officer, Directorate of Science and Technology, Government of Mizoram, Dr. R.K.Lallianthanga, Principal Scientific Officer and Project Director, Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC), all other Officers, Scientists and staffs working under Directorate of Science and Technology for their support, encouragement and help throughout the research work.

It is my pleasant duty to thank my closed friend such as – Dr. K. Laldailova, Associate Professor, Pachhunga University College, Dr. Lungmuana, Agriculture Research Service, Hyderabad, Mr. K. Lalrammuana, Senior Scientist, MIRSAC, Mr. F.Lalramchuana, Senior Scientific Officer, Mizoram Council of Science and Technology, Mr. Edward Lalzuithanga, Mrs. Hmingthanpuii, Mr. Robert
Lalchhanhima Sailo, Mr. Z.D. Laltanpuia, Mr. F. Lalbiakmawia, Mr. C. Lalzawngliana, and all other scientists and staffs of MIRSAC, Aizawl.

I express my sincere thanks to the Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC) for providing me all the data and information required for the work and allow me to use their laboratory and library.

I am highly indebted to my wife Mrs. Lalruatliani and children for their love, help and rendering constant encouragement to complete my research successfully.

Above all, I do thank the Lord Jesus Christ for all the blessings that I have been nourished with.

Place : Aizawl
Date : 28th June, 2013

(LALNUŃSIAMA COLNEY)