ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The work incorporated in this thesis was originally planned and executed under the guidance and supervision of late Dr. U.K. Dwivedi, Head, Department of Zoology, Bipin Behari (P.G.) College, Jhansi. I am very grateful to him for providing overall support, guidance and supervision to me upto his untimely and sad demise. It has been a great loss to me.

I am grateful to the present Vice-chancellor, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi for permitting me to change the guide after the death of Dr. Dwivedi and allowing me to complete the remaining work under the guidance and supervision of Dr. L.N. Agarwal, M.Sc., Ph.D., Principal, B.N. College, Rath (Hamirpur). I take this opportunity to express my indebtedness to him for his guidance, valuable suggestions, constructive criticism and for kindly going through the manuscript.

I am grateful to the Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar (U.P.) for permitting me to avail the laboratory facilities in the Division of Parasitology and the library facility at the Central Library of the Institute.

I am grateful to Dr. A.B. Gupta, the Head of the P.G. Deptt. of Zoology and Dr. U.P. Singh, Principal, Bipin Behari College, Jhansi also
for providing me all the facilities of work and in the completion of this work.

Grateful thanks are acknowledged to Dr. Ravi Chandra, M.V.Sc., Ph.D., Parasitologist (Retd.), Division of Parasitology, I.V.R.I., Izatnagar (U.P.); Dr. R.D. Agarwal, M.V.Sc., Ph.D., Professor & Head, Deptt. of Parasitology, Veterinary University, Mathura (Formerly Veterinary College, Mathura); Dr. M.C. Saxena, M.Sc., Ph.D. Professor of Zoology, Kanpur (Retd.) and Dr. S.P. Jain, D.Sc., F.N.A.Sc., F.Z.S.I., Professor of Zoology, Agra (Retd.) for providing help in my work and in preparation of the manuscript in various ways.

Jhansi

Date: 22 Dec., 2002

(Smt. Abha Raj Singh)