LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1: The world distribution of orchids (shaded regions)
Fig. 2: Orchidarium at Regional Plant Resource Centre, Bhubaneswar
Fig. 3: *Cattleya lawrenceana*
Fig. 4: × *Dendrobium* "Flame"
Fig. 5: × *Dendrobium* "Madam Pampadour"
Fig. 6: Orchid collection in the lath house at Regional Plant Resource Centre
Fig. 7: Experimental materials maintained in the orchidarium at the Centre
Fig. 8: *Dendrobium williamsonii*
Fig. 9: Floral parts of *Dendrobium williamsonii*
Figs. 10 & 10a: *Dendrobium aphyllum*
Fig. 11: *Dendrobium crepidatum*
Figs. 12 & 12a: *Dendrobium densiflorum*
Fig. 13: *Dendrobium draconis*
Figs. 14 & 14a: *Dendrobium fimbriatum* var. *oculatum*
Fig. 15: *Dendrobium formosum*
Fig. 16: *Dendrobium herbaceum*
Fig. 17: *Dendrobium moschatum*
Fig. 18: *Dendrobium nobile*
Figs. 19 & 19a: *Dendrobium parishii*
Figs. 20 & 20a: *Dendrobium primulinum*
Fig. 21: *Dendrobium regium*
Figs. 22 & 22a: *Dendrobium transparens*
Fig. 23: Standard type of chromosomes found in different studied species of *Dendrobium*
Figs. 24a-44a: Somatic metaphase plates of different studied species of *Dendrobium*
Figs. 24-44b: Ideograms showing comparative karyotype in different studied species of *Dendrobium*
Figs. 24c-44c: Polygraphs showing comparative cytological parameters in different studied species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 45: Histogram showing total chromosome length in 21 studied species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 46: Histogram showing total chromosome volume in 21 studied species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 47: Histogram showing centromeric index in metaphase chromosomes in 21 studied species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 48: Histogram showing 4C DNA in 21 studied species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 49: Histogram showing comparative data of total chromosome length and 4C DNA in 21 studied species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 50: Histogram showing comparative data of total chromosome volume and 4C DNA in 21 studied species of *Dendrobium*

Figs. 51a, b-55a, b: RAPD amplification profiles of 21 species of *Dendrobium* using different primers with marker DNA (M) Gene Ruler 100bp DNA ladder plus (MBI Fermantas, Lithuania)

Fig. 56a: Dendrogram constructed from the similarity indices as revealed from amplified bands in RAPD analysis in 21 species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 56b: Cladogram constructed from the similarity indices as revealed from amplified bands in RAPD analysis in 21 species of *Dendrobium*

Fig. 56c: Radial tree constructed from the similarity indices as revealed from amplified bands in RAPD analysis in 21 species of *Dendrobium*