

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a great privilege to express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. K. N. Dhumal, my mentor for his dynamic and able guidance, keen interest and constant encouragement throughout the course of this investigation. His immense insight, ever willing help, unfailing enthusiasm were the great source of inspiration. I must also thank his family members for inspiration and help, who developed such a nice 'Gurukul'.

I sincerely thank Prof. S.S. Deokule, Head, Department of Botany, University of Pune and former Head Prof. V.R. Gunale, for providing the necessary research facilities.

I gratefully acknowledge the authorities of UGC, New Delhi for granting me Teacher fellowship under FIP (11th plan).

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dr. Nanasaheb Gaikwad, Principal, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's Dada Patil Mahavidyalaya, Karjat (Ahmednagar) for his guidance, inspiration and constant encouragement.

I am greatly indebted to Dr. Ashok Bhuite and Dr. K.H. Shinde, former Secretary and Joint Secretary, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara for sanctioning study leave.

I am very grateful to Dr. V.W. Bendale and Dr. Sandip Mahadik, Department of Agril. Botany, College of Agriculture, Dr. B. S. K. K. Agril University, Dapoli (Ratnagiri) for the supply of authentic seed material of horsegram germplasm, help in conducting multilocation trails at their research farm and for useful suggestions during the course of this study.

I place on record my deep sense of gratitude towards the farmers Mr. Nana Pedanekar (Pimpalwadi, Tal-Kankavali), Mr. Vitthal Dhande, Dnyandeo Bobde (Karjat, Dist- A. nagar), as well as the former Agril. Officers Mr. Bhausahab Bharate and Mr. Rajendra Bansode (Karjat Seed Farm, Patharwadi, Tal-Karjat) for providing field facilities to conduct the research experiments.

Many thanks to my colleagues Mr. B.B. Gawade, HOD, Botany, Dr. S.D. Jadhav, HOD, Chemistry, Dr. Amarnath Jagdale, Vice Principal, Science faculty,

Mr. Vikram Bhoge and Mr. Ambadas Suryawanshi for their moral support and encouragement.

I am thankful to Dr. Mrs. Agte (ARI, Pune) for the help in analysis of seed antinutrients and Dr. Pravin Taware for the help in statistical analysis.

Heartfelt gratitude is extended to all my respected teachers and research scholars in mutation breeding for their timely help and encouragement.

My sincere thanks to, Dr. H.S. Patil, Dr. Nivedita Ghayal, Dr. Chanda Hase, Dr. R.R. Vaidya, Dr. Rajendra Kokane, Dr. Digambar Ahire, Dr. Vinayak Lokhande, Ravikiran Pagare, Ram, Ravi, Mahendra, Yogita, Shilpa, Samarpita, Yogesh, Pradeep, Jitendra, Shahnawaz, Shaila, Seema, Pritam, Varsha and Santosh Sutar.

I am highly indebted to my beloved parents, brothers, sisters, close relatives and well wishers for their love, affection and moral support, which is beyond the words. I will be failing in my duties if I do not extend my sincere thanks to my better half Mrs. Sarojini, daughter Pallavi and son Shantanu, without their support it was not possible to complete this small piece of work.

Pune, January, 2011


Sadashiv N. Bolbhat