ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is a privilege to acknowledge the resourceful and helpful guidance and constant inspiration that have been received from Dr. R.K. Sarkar, Lecturer in Agronomy, University College of Agriculture, Calcutta University in the pursuit of investigation. His in-depth knowledge has been of immense substance to me in dealing with the compilation and interpretation of data which enabled me to submit the thesis within a short time beyond my expectation.

I am indeed grateful to Prof. S. Sen (Head) and Prof. B. Bhattacharya (Dean), Faculty of Agriculture, Calcutta University for extending me the laboratory and library facilities during the tenure of my study.

I am also deeply indebted to the revered Director, Soil Conservation Department (SCD), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for extending his kind help in the pursuit of my doctoral curriculum. Co-operation received from Shri J. Bhattacharya (Dy. Director, R & T, SCD, DVC) and Shri A. Prasad (Zonal Officer, SCD, DVC) excel all words of gratitude.

I am extremely thankful to my teachers Dr. A.K. Sarkar and Dr. N.N. Bhowmick (Reader in Agronomy) University College of Agriculture, Calcutta University for their help and guidance from time to time during my study.

Dr. A. Chakraborty, Lecturer in Agronomy, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, deserves special mention for rendering his help to enrich the store of information.

I am proud of having such colleagues and friends who have done a commendable job for me, inspiring me and supporting me extensively in every sphere during my research work.

Last but not the least, it is the blessings of my beloved parents that I could overcome all the hardships for the completion of my work.

(DWIJADAS SIT)