

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The problem on which the work has been done was suggested by the late Dr. H. N. Ray, Emeritus Scientist, under whom I originally started this work. I am extremely grateful to him. I must also express my gratitude to Dr. Sivatosh Mookerjee, F.N.A., the then Professor of Zoology, Presidency College, Calcutta, now Dean of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, under whose able guidance I could continue the work. I am also grateful to Dr. K. L. Mookherjee, Professor of Biochemistry, Institute of Child Health, Calcutta, for his assistance and guidance, but for whose scientific advice and provision of laboratory facilities it would have been hardly possible for me to complete the work. I am grateful to Dr. U. C. Chakraborti, Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Institute of Child Health, Calcutta under whom the research was carried out with a grant-in-aid from the Indian Council of Medical Research for one year, to whom I am also indebted. I want also particularly to thank my colleagues at the Department of Zoology, Presidency College, Calcutta and at the Institute of Child Health, Calcutta for the help and collaboration I had from them at all stages of my work.