SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS.

The work embodied in this thesis on the plant *Scirpus kyaoor* Roxb included experimental studies on botanical, chemical and pharmacological aspects of the material. The experimental studies have been carried out with the definite objective of assessing age-long clinical practice of its use in cases of threatened abortions. The results of investigation are embodied in the Chapters III, IV and V. The results are summarised as under:

1. The tuber is well identified botanically as *Scirpus kyaoor* Roxb.
2. The necessary criteria for botanical and chemical identification for the tubers as well as its powder are given.
3. The successive solvent extraction of the tubers, showed the presence of steroids, which possess antioxytocic property.
4. Antioxytocic activity of the material was used as a specific bioassay method, which required for determination of the uterine sedative compound.
5. The compound is chemically characterized and is confirmed as progesterone on the basis of superimposition
6. Progesterone could be isolated from the tubers, which is the relevant compound from the point of view of antioxytocic activity.

7. The other important activities were found to be CNS depressant, analgesic and anabolic activities. All these biological activities can be said to be useful as complimentary to the antioxytocic activity.

8. It is pointed out that the use of n-butanol extract or even crude tuber material could be administered in the therapeutic doses as toxicity limits of n-butanol extract are pretty high.

9. The work embodied in this thesis, therefore, serves as an example for the demonstration of multi-disciplinary approach for the study of potentially active medicinal plants and it also proves beyond doubt the importance of sound observation, coupled with multi-disciplinary probes to arrive at a logical, sound and useful conclusions.