ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I bow in reverence to Almighty Allah for blessing me with the zeal and wisdom to complete the endeavor in the form of a thesis.

A guide is the pivot to the wheel of process. Therefore, firstly I extend my deepest sense of gratitude to Dr. Mirza Zeeshan Beg, Reader, Department of Botany, Shibli National Post Graduate College; Azamgarh. His scientific acumen, able guidance, constant inspiration, constructive criticism, logical thinking, unceasing encouragement, continued interest and patient hearing were largely responsible in finalizing the thesis. He besides giving me an open and flexible environment to work and also made me realize the responsibilities associated with this work and thus a constant source of encouragement for me in pursuing my goal towards the excellence.

Thanks are due to Principal (Dr. Iftekhar Ahmad) and Vice Principal (Gyas Asad Khan) Shibli National Post Graduate College, Azamgarh for providing adequate facilities.

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. K. K. Khan, Head. Department of Botany, Shibli National Post Graduate College, Azamgarh for his valuable advise and academic support throughout investigation.

This study owes a great thank to Dr. S. Javed Ali, Anwar Ahmad and Dr. Qamruddin Retired Head, Department of Botany, Shibli National Post Graduate College, Azamgarh. I am grateful to them for giving me extremely detailed and insightful comments, timely suggestions, inspiration and profound encouragement from inception to the final culmination of my work.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. Masood Akhtar, Ishteyaque Ahmad, Dr. Tausif Ahmad, Dr. Mirza Jaish Beg, Dr. Abdullah and Arif Ghani for their cooperation and helping attitude during the entire period of investigation.
I am also thankful to non-teaching staff Shadab Ahmad (Lab Asst.) Babu Lal (Retd.) and Shaikh Majid, Deptt. of Botany who extended all support to me in this pursuit of my work.

I am thankful to Dr. Salman Sultan and Dr. Abu Shahma Khan, Head Department of Chemistry, Shibli National Post Graduate College, Azamgarh for their affections, encouragement and suggestions whenever required.

I pay my regard to Dr. J.K. Jauhari & V.K. Garg Sr. Scientist, NBRI, Lucknow, Dr. C. M. Nautiyal, Sr. Scientist BSIPB, Lucknow, Dr. A.A. Zaidi, Head Floriculture, IHBT, Palampur (H.P.), Dr. M.J.K. Siddiqui Director, CST Lucknow, Dr. Seema Wahab, Sr. Scientist, DBT, New Delhi. and Dr. Anis Ahmad Deptt. of Botany AMU Aligarh for their valuable advise whenever required.

I will be failing in my duties if I forget Mrs. M. Z. Beg, Neda Beg and talented Mirza Haris Beg for their helping attitude, active cooperation and providing time to time tea break. I will remain highly thankful to them throughout my life.

I can never forget the active cooperation of my seniors & research colleagues. I will always remain obliged to Firoz Ahmad, Ziya-Ul-Hasan Khan, Jeevan Kumar Yadav, Sultana Parveen, Soharab Ahmad, Javed Akram, Ravindra Kumar, Heera Lal and Ahsan Beg.

I owe special thanks to Mr. Zahid Sabqat, Department of Computer Science, Shibli National Post Graduate College, Azamgarh for his suggestions & co-operation in computer assistance.

There are no words which can express my love and affection towards my friends & colleagues Dr. Mohd Faisal, Rabiullah, A.A. Khan, Asif Neyaz, S.A. Mehdi, N. A. Khan, S. J. Haider, Shams Parvez, Mohd Arif, Mohd
Siddique, Abid Mahmood, Ashhad, and Shakeel, for their encouragement and valuable supports.

I would like to express my deep sense of regard to my uncle (Late) Mr. Imteyaz Ahmad Khan who supports me a lot during research field works but it is sorrow to mention here he is not alive. I will remain gratifying throughout my life.

I also pay the immense regard to my mamu Mr. Sultan Alam Khan who give me valuable suggestion, cooperation and inspiration during Investigation. I will remain always obliged.

I am very much thankful to my sisters specially Sufiya, Ruqaiyaa, Umme Salma, Rabia, Saleha and Sayaqa and brothers specially Nasir Jamal Khan, Asif Jamal Khan Kashif Jamal Khan Shams Tabrez and Azam Khan. I also pay the thanks to aunts Mrs. Afsar Shaheen and Causin Brothers Danish, Rashid and Sisters Zarrin, Sumaiyya and Bisma Atiqua for their encouragement, blessings, support and cooperation during our investigation.

Last but not least let me take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to My father Mr. Neyaz Ahmad Khan & Mother Mrs. Khadeeja Neyaz for their immense love, encouragement, sacrifices, patience and prayers, which have been the source of inspiration throughout my Investigation.

(Amir Jamal Khan)