ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I will everlastingly remain indebted for the benignity of Almighty, who showed me the path to through.

This research work is a synthetic result of the contributions from many quarters. It is very difficult to name all the sources of inspiration; moreover, words are often too weak a mode of revealing one's sentiments and feelings of indebtedness. I am unable to find words which could encompass the sincere and deep feelings of gratitude and thankfulness that I have for my very learned and humble supervisor Dr. J. Singh, Reader, Department of Chemistry, Udaipur Pratap Autonomous College, Varanasi. He guided me through the maze of this complex subject, without his sincere and constructive suggestions at every stage of this work I would not have been able to complete this study. The debt which I owe him can never be adequately acknowledged.

I am grateful and express my heartiest indebtedness to Dr. B.B. Singh, Principal, Udaipur Pratap Autonomous College, Varanasi for his valuable suggestions and cooperation.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. R.S. Singh, Research Coordinator & Vice Principal, and Dr. R.P. Singh, Head, Department of Chemistry, Udaipur Pratap Autonomous College, Varanasi for their help and constructive suggestions in completing my work.

I do not find adequate words to express my gratitude to Prof. B.D. Tripathi, Coordinator, Environmental Science, B.H.U. Varanasi who also extended his guidance for experimental studies of this work.

I wish to express my special thanks to Dr. Abha Srivastava, Dean, Faculty of Science, A.K.A. P.G. College, Varanasi and Dr. A.K. Gupta, Head, Department of Botany, S.B., P.G. College, Baragaon, Varanasi for their memorable suggestions and help during the course of my research work.

Prof. T.N. Pandey, Department of Mathematics, D.D.U., Gorakhpur University and uncle Major R.S. Dubey need special acknowledgement for their continuous encouragement and being source of inspiration.
Special thanks to Dr. T.B. Singh, Department of Paediatrics, I.M.S., Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi for his valuable suggestions during statistical analysis.

I owe a debt of thanks to Dr. M.P. Singh and Dr. N. Dwivedi, Department of Botany, Udai Pratap Autonomous College, Varanasi for their encouragement and advice in all phases of this work and also for extending the support in conduction of macrophytic studies.

I express my sincere thanks to my fellow researcher Mr. A.K. Pandey for his cooperation at various stages of this work.

Helpful assistance rendered by Shri Bhai Lal in neatly typing the manuscript is also thankfully acknowledged.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not express my thanks to Dr. A. Srivastav, Dr. A.K. Pandey, Mrs. D. Singh, Ms. P. Mukherjee, Mrs. S. Singh, Department of Botany, A.K.A. P.G. College, Varanasi and Mrs. S. Mukherjee, St. John's School, Mehrauli, Varanasi for their help at various stages.

Husband Dr. A.K. Dwivedi is gratefully acknowledged for his continuous cooperation and assistance during the field work and laboratory experiments.

I thank to all my friends and well wishers for extending their cooperation without reservation.

I am also grateful to my lovely nephew Salil and son Shivam who cooperated and adjusted a lot in course of my work.

Father-in-law Dr. K. Dubey, sister-in-law Dr. P. Tripathi, brother-in-law S.V. Tripathi and sister Jyoti are heartedly acknowledged for their continuous cooperation and encouragement during the course of my research work, without their help this was an impossible task.

I never forget the constant encouraging endeavours and generosity bestowed by my parents and mother-in-law whose everlasting love gave me the inspiration. My debt to them is immense.

Varanasi
26, December, 2002