ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I thank my Guide, **Dr. M. Arunachalam**, for his able guidance rendered during the course of the work. He was instrumental in conceptualising and developing the theme and his support was available in all stages of work,

I record my sincere thanks to **Dr. K. G. Sivaramakrishnan** my advisor and mentor from the beginning of my post graduate study for introducing me to the field of aquatic entomology. In the same way I would like to extend my thanks to **Dr. K. Venkataraman** for being an inspiration and a role model to me.

I am particularly indebted to my husband, **Dr. T. Sivaruban**, for encouragement, stimulating discussions and practical assistance during finalisation of the thesis.

Many of my friends have contributed in significant ways to the completion of this work. I would like to extend my gratefulness to **Dr. R. Soranam, Dr. M. Muralidharan, Dr. M. Raja, Mr. C. Selvakumar, Mr. S. Sundar** and **Mr. S. Nandagopal**.

I would like to extend my thanks to **Mr. John Joseph**, who helped a lot in execution of this work.

I sincerely thank my parents and sisters for their moral support and encouragement in successful completion of this work.

I extend my sincere thanks to **Dr. Ø. Hammer et al.**, for using the freeware PAST (ver.1.89) their statistical analysis package which help me to do the statistical analysis.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my father in law and mother in law for their encouragement to fulfil this work.