DECLARATION

I, hereby declare that the thesis entitled “Studies on biovar specific diagnostics for Ralstonia solanacearum Yabuuchi (Smith) infecting ginger (Zingiber officinale Rosc.) and evaluation of apoplastic microbes for biocontrol” submitted by me for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Botany at Mangalore university, is a bonafide record of research work carried out at ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode under the supervision and guidance of Dr. R. Suseela Bhai, Principal Scientist, Plant Pathology, Division of Crop Protection, ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode, Kerala. No part of this thesis has formed the basis for the award of any other degree or diploma previously. All sources of help received by me during the course of this study have been duly acknowledged.

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