Acknowledgement

"Accomplishment of this thesis is the result of almighty blessing of my God, teachers and love of my parents."

I feel it as a great privilege to place a record my profound etiquette to my Chairman Dr. Lokendra Singh, Former Reader, Meerut College, Meerut for his valuable suggestion, constructive criticism and creative thinking moulded me into present position.

It gives me immense pleasure to express my deep sense of thanks and gratitude to my respected Co-chairman Dr. V. K. Baranwal, Senior Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi. I consider myself lucky and it's my privilege to work under such a person whose moral support and valuable guidance in spite of his hectic schedule have kept me in this stead. I can not sufficiently thank him for his thought provoking suggestions, for teaching me very important principles and values of life and for building the base of my knowledge in plant virology. I am greatly indebted to him for his pain taking efforts to finish my research work.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. Y.S. Aklawat, for his encouragement, support and help during various phases of my Ph.D. study.

I am highly thankful to Dr. R.K. Jain, Head, Division of Plant Pathology for his kindness and providing his guidance, co-operation along my research work and necessary facilities to undertake this study.

I am highly obliged to Dr. Pankaj Magoo, Head, Department of Botany, Meerut College, Meerut for providing all the facilities and their enthusiasm and support.

I am also thankful to Dr. R.P. Singh (Agriculture and Agri-food, Canada, Potato Research Centre, Canada) for his help and useful suggestions during the course of study.

I wish to express my grateful love and owe a deep sense of honor to my beloved parents Shri Surendra Singh Arya and Smt. Indra Arya for their love and dedicated efforts in shaping my career since childhood. It is time to surface out my affectionate records to my sister Pooja and brother Anuj for their constant inspiration throughout my study.

I also wish to express my grateful love and owe a deep sense of honor to my beloved In-laws who have supported me so much for the completion of this work.
I express my thanks to my beloved friends Mamta, Riyaz and Sandeep for their constant encouragement during my course of work.

I also express my thanks to my colleagues, Sudeep, Shivangi, Shahana di, Deepti, K. N. Gupta and Santha and my cousin Suraj for their endurance, affection and active co-operation and also for their timely helps which enabled me to sustain my interest and thereby accomplishing this task.

I would also like to express my thanks to staff division of Plant Pathology and IARI library for memorable help they rendered.

This acknowledgement is incomplete if I forget to acknowledge the sacrifice of my beloved son, Arnav, who allowed me to work at the time when he needed me the most. I will never be able to bring back that precious time he has lost for me.

Last but not least the accomplishment of this thesis work is all because of patience, constant encouragement and support of my beloved husband Anuj Tomar during the course of study. His unceasing support urged me to carry on and attain my dream when sometimes it seems difficult.

Any omission in this brief acknowledgement does not indicate lack of gratitude.

I am grateful to Department of Biotechnology for providing me financial support through Senior Research Fellowship which also helped my Ph.D programme.

Date: 26/12/01

Meenakshi Arya