ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deep feeling of gratitude and sincere appreciation to my esteemed research supervisor Dr. H.S. Sidhu, Professor, Punjab School of Economics, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and co-supervisor Dr. Rachhpal Singh, Senior Economist (retired), P.A.U., Ludhiana for their very kind inspiration, expert guidance and ever-willing help throughout the tenure of this investigation.

I am grateful to Dr. Gurmail Singh, Chairman, Department of Economics, Punjab University, Chandigarh for his keen interest and judicious guidance during the course of this work.

I am grateful to Dr (Mrs.) Manjit Kaur, Farm Economist, PAU, Ludhiana for her kind cooperation and valuable suggestion for the improvement of the manuscript.

The cooperation extended by the respondent farmers of study area in sharing the relevant information on various aspects of their farming business is gratefully acknowledged.

The experts in different aspects of agricultural sciences at PAU and research stations extended the required sub matter advice.

I would like to express my indebtedness to the Punjab Agricultural University for the grant of permission to pursue this work.

The help extended by Sh. Ranjodh Singh and Parminder Singh, Research Investigator and other friends was appreciable for me.

The author feels obliged to his wife, children, in-laws, brothers and sisters and their children for their blessings, besides their material and mental support during the period of this study.