ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is a pleasure to convey my gratitude to all the people whose contribution in assorted ways to the research and the making of the thesis deserves special mention.

I wish to place on record my deep sense of gratitude and my profound thanks to my supervisor, Dr. Santan Barthwal, Scientist-D, Division of Genetics and Tree Propagation, Forest Research Institute, throughout my thesis writing period; he provided encouragement, sound advice, good teaching and ideas. Without his constant support the research work would not have taken the present shape. Working under him was an enriching experience.

I am deeply grateful to my co-supervisor Dr. H.S. Ginwal, for his advice, supervision, inspiration and his great efforts to explain things clearly and simply.

I am thankful to Shree Vishnu Prasad Acharya, Research Assistant-II, Shree Rajendra Kumar, Research Assistant-I, Research and co-ordination cell, FRI, for helping me in collection of the phenotypic data.

It has been my privilege to have had the opportunity of working in Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. I sincerely thank Dr. S.S. Negi, the former Director, Forest Research Institute for providing me resin yield data from his project and necessary facilities for the accomplishment of this research work. I also extend my deep sense of gratitude towards the Director, Forest Research Institute, Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, for successful completion of my work.

I would like to thank Dr. Ashok Kumar, Scientist-E, Ms. Parveen, Scientist-C, Dr. M.S. Bhandari, Scientist-B and Dr. Rama Kant, Scientist-B, Division of Genetics and Tree Propagation, for their timely help and cooperation.
I express my sincere thanks to Shree Raman Nautiyal for giving critical suggestions for the statistical analysis during the study period.

I wish to express my special thanks to Dr. Shashi Bhushan Tripathi, Research Fellow, TERI, New Delhi for his invaluable support and guidance in completion of my research work.

I am thankful to Prof. Kulwant Rai Sharma and Prof. D.K. Khurana, U.H.F, Nauni for their kind support and advice.

I express my heartful gratitude to Dr. Rekha R.Warrier, Scientist-D, IFGTB, Coimbatore and Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist- F, IFGTB, Coimbatore for their valuable help and suggestions in my research work.

It is my pleasure to extend my gratitude to Mr. D.P. Negi for providing me the literature which helped me a lot in pursuing my work.

I am thankful to the office staff of the Division of Genetics and Tree Propagation for their invaluable cooperation.

I extend my gratitude to Dr. S.P. Goyal, Chairman RAC and all the expert members of the RAC, for their suggestions and support.

It is my pleasure to place on record my affectionate thanks to my friends Mr. Akhilesh Kumar, Mr. Arvind Sharma, Ms. Disha Rautela, Ms. Indu, Ms. Kirti, Ms. Neha Goyal, Ms. Palak Anand, Ms. Priti Chauhan, Mr. Santosh Kumar, Ms. Shivani Dobhal, Ms. Shruti Sharma and Ms. Swati Allen for their valuable discussions, constructive comments, encouragement and good company throughout the research work.
I express my deep sense of gratitude and total indebtedness to my dear parents Mr. Bhagat Singh Kathait and Mrs. Bhagwati Devi, my in-laws Mr. S.S. Rawat and Mrs. Sudha Rawat, my husband Mr. Ashish Rawat, my daughter Bani and each and every member of my family for their love and affection towards me and for their continuous moral support that boosted me in every step towards my success.

Anita Rawat