ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to express my deep sense of obligation and gratitude to Dr. G.P. Mishra, M.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.T.E., Professor of Botany Deptt of Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar and Dr. Ram Prasad, M.Sc., IIFC, Ph.D., IFS, Director, State Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur for providing me the able guidance and supervision without which this research work would not have become possible. I am indebted to them for allowing me to have the benefit of their knowledge, experience, constructive criticism and time to time help. I also express my gratitude to Dr. K.M. Vyas, Professor and Head, Deptt of Botany, Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar for his help and guidance throughout this research work.

To my parents, I pay my gratitude and thanks for giving me encouragement and support and for patiently waiting to see me through. To Mrs. Prasad, I express my sincere thanks for boosting up my moral during the hours of depression and constant encouragements.

Thanks are due to the authorities at F.R.I. & Colleges, Dehradun for permission to carry out this research work. I am feeling pleasure; my humble thanks to Dr. R.V. Singh, President, FRI & Colleges, DehraDun for his constructive criticism during his visit to R.F.R.C. Jabalpur.

I am beholden to Dr. S.P. Bajpai, Dr. A.K. Kandya, Dr. P.K. Khare of Sagar University and Dr. P.K. Singhal of Jabalpur University and Dr. N.S.K. Harsh, Research Officer, RFR, Jabalpur for critically going through the manuscript and for their valuable suggestions; to Dr. Jamaluddin, Officer-in-Charge, Regional Forest Research Centre, Jabalpur for providing the laboratory facilities to carry out the research work and time to time help; to Dr. M. Oommachan, Reader, Botany department of Jabalpur University for identification of doubtful specimens and to teachers and colleagues of Sagar University for the encouragement.

Further, I wish to acknowledge with many thanks to Sri M.K. Verma for neatly typing the thesis and Sri R.K. Pathak and Sri Vishnu Srivastava for helping me with the drawings.

( Om Prakash Chaubev )