ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a matter of great pleasure and honor to present the work which owes its existence to my respected guides Dr. Sudhir Kumar, Reader, Department of Botany, J.V. College, Baraut (Baghpat), U.P. and Dr. Parimal Sinha, Senior Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi-110 012, whose guidance, encouragements and sympathetic attitude were immensely helpful throughout the present research work.

I am particularly indebted to Dr. P.N. Chowdhry, former Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi for his encouragements and suggestions. He was kind enough to go through the manuscript and sparing his valuable time for me.

I am greatly indebted to Dr. Prameela Devi, Senior Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi for her encouragement, generous help and support whenever, needed. I pay humble regard and thanks to Dr. Y.S. Tomar, Principal, J.V.College, Baraut. I am also thankful to Dr. J. Mohan, Head of the Department, Dr. B.S. Dahiya, Dr. S.P. Singh, Dr. A.K. Sharma, Dr. (Mrs.) R. Sharma, J.V.College, Baraut for their kind help and cooperation during present course of study.

I am highly thankful to Mr. Lokesh Division of Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi for his help. I am thankful to Mr. Raj Kumar (Raju) and Mr. Sailesh Singh, ITCC, Plant Pathology IARI, New Delhi for typing my thesis very carefully and incorporating the necessary mistakes.

At last but not the least I am thankful to my parents, wife Mrs. Pushpa Hudda and children Preeti Singh and Vishwendra Singh for their moral support and encouragements throughout my Ph.D period without their support it was not possible for me to complete this work.

Dated: 17-10-87

OM PRAKASH SINGH