ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is grateful to late Prof. S.K. Pande, D.Sc., F.N.I. for suggesting the problem and under whose guidance this work had been initiated. I express my profound indebtedness to Dr. L.P. Mall, M.Sc., Ph.D., F.B.S., Head of the Botany Department, Vikram University for the helpful discussions, valuable guidance and suggestions and also in going through the manuscript.

Grateful thanks are due to Dr. S.B. Saksena, M.Sc., Ph.D., F.B.S., F.N.A. Sc., Head of the Department of Botany, Saugar University, for his sincere encouragements and the facilities accorded to me during the course of this study. Thanks are also due to Shri H.K. Bhargava, M.Sc., F.B.S., F.N.A. Sc., Assistant Professor for placing his personal library at my disposal and other help and to Dr. G.P. Mishra, M.Sc., Ph.D. for his assistance in the chemical analysis.

I am also grateful to Mr. A.H. Norkett, British Museum of Natural History, Kew, for the identification of the Mosses and to Prof. A.J. Sharp for his sincere suggestion in the line of studies. Thanks are also due to Dr. A. Noguchi, Japan, and Prof. Margaret Fulford for their help in various ways.

Acknowledgment is also made to the Director of Meteorological Department, Delhi, for providing the climatic data included in the text.
Thanks are due to the Ministry of Scientific and Cultural Affairs, Government of India, for kindly awarding me a Senior Research Scholarship during the period of my research work.

(C.K.C.S. Pillai)