CONTENTS

I. Introduction. 1-15
II. Review of literature. 16-29
III. Materials and Methods. 30-34
IV. Experimental Approaches:
   1. Survey on spoilage of banana fruits by infection of microorganisms in the fruit markets of Tihu of Nalbari, Assam. 35-44
   2. Isolation and identification of fungal pathogens causing banana fruit rot. 45-52
   3. Pathogenicity test of certain fungi isolated from infected banana fruits of different stages. 53-59
   4. Histopathological studies of both healthy and infected banana fruits. 60-71
   5. Climatic conditions of the area. 72-79
   6. Analysis of fungi present on the surfaces of healthy and infected banana fruits. 80-86
   7. Analysis of fungal spores in the air of fruit markets of Tihu. 87-107
   8. Effect of temperature and relative humidity on the:
      i. Infection of banana fruits by fungal pathogens. 108-122
      ii. Growth of fungal pathogens. 123-136
   9. Effect of carbon and nitrogen sources on the growth of fungal pathogens. 137-149
   10. Analysis of sugar and ascorbic acid (vitamin C) contents in both healthy and infected banana fruits. 150-174
   11. Study of measures by using certain plant leaf extracts and fungicides to control infection of banana fruit rot. 175-193
V. Discussion. 194-213
VI. Summary. 214-222
VII. Bibliography. 223-262