ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Joseph Thomas, F.A.Sc., F.N.A., Head, Biological Nitrogen Fixation Section, Biology and Agriculture Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, Bombay for his invaluable guidance, constant endeavour and critical evaluation during the course of this research work. I am also indebted to Dr. N. K. Notani, Head, Biology and Agriculture Division, B.A.R.C., for the facilities provided and the interest shown in the progress of this work. Sincere acknowledgements are due to my colleagues in the Biological Nitrogen Fixation Section for their co-operation and encouragement.