ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author gratefully expresses his sincere gratitude to Dr. C.R. Bhatia, Head, Mutation Breeding Section, Biology & Agriculture Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, Bombay, for his keen interest, invaluable guidance and critical evaluation throughout the course of this study.

The author is indebted to Shri N.S. Rao, Head, Biology Group, who initiated mutation studies in sesame at this Research Centre, inducted the author into mutation research and provided all laboratory and field facilities.

Sincere thanks from the author are due in Biology & Agriculture Division to Dr. V.T. Sreenivasan for analysing oil content through NMR spectrometer, to Shri J.D. Gadgil for the help in nitrogen estimations and to all members of Mutation Breeding Section and staff in the field for extending co-operation.