ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It gives me immense pleasure in acknowledging with thanks Mr. Zakiul Hasan Zaidi, Reader, Department of Botany, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for his sound guidance, keen interest, constant encouragement and constructive criticism during the course of preparation of this thesis.

I place on record my sincere thanks to Professor S.K. Saxena, Chairman, Department of Botany for providing me essential laboratory and library facilities.

I owe a debt of gratitude to Professor A.K.M. Ghouse, Dr. Saeed A. Siddiqui, Reader, Dr. Mohd. Iqbal and Dr. Mohd. Anis, Lecturers, Department of Botany, for their valuable suggestions during the preparation of this manuscript.

Special thanks go to Dr. Raisuddin Ahmad, Assistant Research Officer, D.S.R.U., Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi, Dr. Faiz A. Khan and Mr. S.N. Maharaj, Department of Botany, who rendered me personal assistance and unreserved help in various ways.

I feel pleasure to express my sincere thanks to my laboratory colleagues Mr. Sarfaraz Hadi, Mr. Bilal Ali Zaidi, Mr. Mohd. Nihaluddin, Miss. Kamaljeet Kaur and Miss. Neeti Rohatgi and my friends Dr. Imtiaz A. Khan, Dr. M.Y.K. Ansari, Dr. Mohd. Firoz, Mr. Saeed Ahmad, Mr. Mohd. Shahid and Mr. Aminuddin for their ever co-operative attitude and friendly counsel.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Last, I am really indebted to my elder brothers, Dr. Iqbal Zaheer and my cousin Dr. Mohsin Raza not only for financial help but encouragement throughout the course of this research work, I am also thankful to Mr. Sabir Husain Siddiqui, for typing of this thesis.

Financial assistance given by U.G.C. (Govt. of India), New Delhi, in the form of Junior/Senior Research Fellowship is also gratefully acknowledged.

( Anwar Zaheer )