ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe my gratitude to my guide Dr. (Mrs.) M.A. Padhya, Reader, Department of Botany, for her meticulous guidance and constructive criticism, enabling me to accomplish this study.

It is my pleasant duty to express regards to Prof. S.D. Sabnis, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of M.S. University, Prof. R.P. Bhatt, Head, Department of Botany and Prof. A.R. Mehta, former Head, Department of Botany, for their continuous encouragement and providing the facilities for completing the work.

Thanks are due to my research colleagues for their suggestions and discussions during the course.

I am also thankful to Dr. K.L. Dhar, Head, Natural Products Division, Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu, for permitting to carry out a part of the work in their laboratory.

Financial assistance as JRF/SRF in the Research Project from Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi, is gratefully acknowledged.

Lastly, I also thank many others who had helped but for brevity, I refrain from listing them.

- Katam Ramesh