

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It gives me an immense pleasure to express my profound sense of gratitude to my revered teacher **Dr. T. Pullaiah**, Reader and Head, Department of Botany, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur for assigning this research topic by reposing his confidence in my ability. I am gratefully indebted to his incessant supervision, illuminating guidance reassuring hand and enormous encouragement. The value of his guidance, the wisdom of his counsel are far richer than these words can express.

I express my special word of heartfelt gratitude to **Dr. P.B. Kavi Kishore**, Reader, Department of Genetics, Osmania University, Hyderabad, for his untiring efforts and high degree of inspiration which inculcated interest and courage to undertake this research topic. I will always be grateful to him for valuable discussions and suggestions.

I thank **Prof. G.M. Reddy**, Department of Genetics, Osmania University, Hyderabad who made it possible to learn the tissue culture techniques under the guidance of **Dr. P.B. Kavi Kishore**.

I take this opportunity to express my humble thanks to **Prof. C.G. Prakasa Rao**, former Head, for his constructive criticism and help during my course of work. My grateful thanks to **Dr. R.R.V. Raju**, Reader and **Dr. C. Sudhakar**, Lecturer in Botany for their support.

I gratefully acknowledge the help rendered by **Dr. Sri Vasuki**, State Silvi culturist, Mithila, Technical Assistant, Forest Department, Tirupati, **Prof. Ramalingeshwara Rao**, **Dr. Yesoda**, **Mr. Rangachari** and **Mr. Ramesh**, Department of Botany, S. V. University, Tirupati.

My personal thanks to the Joint Director, Regional Sericultural Research Station, Anantapur for providing me the plant material.

I would like to acknowledge the direct or indirect help of staff members of Biosciences, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur during the course of research.

The affectionate help and moral support given by **Dr. Malakondaiah** and **Smt. Santadevi** is gratefully acknowledged. My special thanks are also due to **Smt. R.P. Suseeladevi** and **Smt. T. Kasturi**.

It is my great pleasure to thank my Coresearchers **Matta Reddy, Ramanjulu, Suseela, Hemambar Reddy, Hanumanth Gowda, Dr. Raviprasada Rao, Vinolia** and **Hanumanthappa** for their constant help and encouragement in multitudinous ways right from the outset of this work, which enabled me in the successful completion of this work.

Words do not suffice to acknowledge the affectionate help showered by friend of my heart **Miss. Annapurna**.

I am especially thankful to my beloved parents, family members for their unfathomable affection and help, without which this piece of work could not be completed successfully

My sincere appreciation is extended to **Mr. K. RANGANAYAKULU, RAJESH PHOTOSTAT** for his neat and meticulous typing.

--ANURADHA, M.