ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I avail myself this opportunity to express my indebtedness and profound gratitude to my guide, Dr. D. N. Baishya, Professor and former Head of the department of Botany, Gauhati University for his valuable guidance, advice, inspiration and encouragement throughout the entire period of this Research work. Words can hardly express my sense of gratitude to Professor Dr. C.M. Sarma, Head Botany Department, Gauhati University for providing necessary laboratory and Department library facilities. It gives me a great pleasure to regard my appreciation and sincere thanks to Dr. M. Islam, Botany Department, Sibsagar College, and Dr. G. C. Sarma, Dr. C.L. Baissia, Dr. K.N. Bora, Dr. C.K. Barua, Dr. B.C. Goswami, Dr. S.K. Borthakur, Dr. S. N. Bora of Gauhati University, Dr. S.N. Phukan, Professor B. M. Buzarbarua, for their valuable help rendered to me in various capacities from time to time.

I am also grateful to Prof. L. Mahendra Singh, Prof. Tilok Barua, and Sri D.K. Hazarika, Librarian, Sibsagar College, Joysagar, for their untiring help in the tenure of my research work.
I wish to place on record my deep appreciation for valuable opinion and suggestions received from J. D. Rogers, Professor and Chairman, Department of Plant Pathology, Washington State University, Director, C.M. Institute, Ferry Lane, Kew Surrey, England in identifying certain different fungal taxa.

I am also grateful to Principal, Sibsagar College, Joysagar and the Secy. U.G.C. New Delhi for allowing me to avail the Teacher fellowship, sponsored by the U.G.C.

I am indebted to numerous fellow colleagues to mention a few Dr. P. Kotaky, Dr. Rupa Saikia Phukan, Mrs. Kalyani Sarma, for their hearty co-operation and help for completing the Thesis in the final form.

My thanks are also due to Mr. Goutam Roy and Sri M.C. Paul for typing, printing and binding, this thesis for final presentable shape. And in conclusion, I express my heartfelt gratitude to my mother, wife and members of my family; whose filial affection, encouragement and blessing have always been an inspiration in all my undertakings.

RATNESWAR DEORI,
M.Sc, M.Phil.
U.G.C. Teacher fellow
Botany Department,
Guwahati University.