ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is my boundless duty and fathomless obligation to acknowledge the sincere help and earnest guidance that I have received in no small measure from different quarters in the accomplishment of this study.

First of all, the author wishes to record his deepest sense of gratitude to his worthy and esteemed guide prof. (Mrs) Alaka Buragohain, who guided the investigation with her usual sagacious wisdom, scholarly insight of zeal and patience throughout the course of research. I expressed my deep sense of gratitude for her enthusiastic guidance, critical appreciation as well as encouragement throughout the course of study. I am deeply indebted to her for the pain she took in reading every line meticulously and minutely of the manuscript. She not only was taking care about the minor details of the work but even for critical observation, valuable suggestion and advice extended for further modification, even at the expense of her health and cost of costly time, throughout the course of investigation and untiring help for being instrumental in fabricating the thesis in its present shape.

I am highly grateful to Dr. N. Lahkar, Reader & Head, Prof. N.N. Sharma, Dr. R.K. Barman and Shri S. Singh of the Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University, Guwahati for their constructive criticism being disseminated in the form of scientific instruction.

I would like to place on record my deepest gratitude to Prof. J.C. Binwal, Dean and Head, School of Library and Information Science, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong for inspiring me in taking up the present study and help rendered to me despite his multifarious engagement; he never disappointed me to supplement my knowledge in this field.
I am immensely obliged to the Director, ICAR research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam for allowing me to work at the Institute's field and library and make full use of all the available facilities for carry out the work successfully.

My thanks are due to all the faculty members, scientists, research associates who extended assistance in providing valuable data, fruitful discussion and useful suggestions in response to the questionnaire.

Sincerest thanks are also due to the Librarians and staff of the Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat; Botanical Survey of India, Shillong; Central Potato Research Station, Shillong; Gauhati University, Guwahati; Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; Indian National Scientific and Documentation Centre, New Delhi; Manipur Agricultural College, Imphal; Nagaland Agricultural University, Medziphema, North Eastern Council Library, Shillong, University of Mysore, Mysore; Zoological Survey of India, Shillong for extending full facilities for consulting literature and collecting references.

I am highly obliged to Dr. D. Kumar, Division of Entomology, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam for his kind advice and excellent suggestions during the study.

My heartfelt thank is also due to Dr. Satish Chandra, Division of Pathology, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam for his sincere co-operation and ever available help through the course of study.

I gratefully acknowledge the excellent co-operation extended by Dr. S.K. Sharma and Dr. Mahesh Kumar ex-senior staff of ICAR Institute, Umiam.
I sincerely express my debt of gratitude to Dr. M.A. Prodhani, Ex-Library and Information Officer, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam for his help in various ways at any stage of the present study.

I express my sincere gratitude to my colleagues in ICAR Library, Shri Gulab Prasad (T-5), Shri S. Borhohain (T-4), Smti. A.P. Dutta (T-4), Shri K. Saikia, Library Attendant who never have express their unwillingness in discharging additional aids as and when required.

Lastly, I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge contributions of my parents, other family members, wife, son and daughter for sharing great patience and constant inspiration during the course of study.

My acknowledgement with thanks goes to Shri Prosanto Saha for taking ungrudging pains in computer typing the manuscript.

I would like to place on record my thanks to those who helped me actively or possessively, although their names do not get mentioned here.

MORGAN D. SYIEM