ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author takes the opportunity to express her deepest sense of gratitude to her respected guide Dr. U. C. Goswami, Professor, Department of Zoology, Gauhati University, Guwahati and Dr. S. Dey, Sr. Scientist Electron Microscopy Lab, SAIF, NEHU, Shillong, for guiding and encouraging her throughout the course of this present study.

The author expresses her sincere gratitude to Dr. D. K. Sharma Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, Gauhati University for encouraging and providing necessary help for laboratory facilities.

The author also expresses her sincere gratitude to Dr. T. Rahman, Professor and Head, Department of Pathology, College of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati and Dr. N. K. Saha, Professor, Department of Zoology, NEHU, Shillong for their help and suggestions in some laboratory works.

The author takes the opportunity to express her sincere thanks to Dr. Dyananda Pathak, Principal, Pragjyotish College, Guwahati for his cooperation, help and encouragement during the present study.

The author is thankful to Prof. D. Khating, Director and Mrs. Begonia, SAIF, NEHU, Shillong for their help in performing SEM, TEM, etc works.

The author is also thankful to Mukibur Rahman, Dr. P. K. Saha and Dr. Jayanta Deka for their constant help in laboratory and computer work in many ways.

The author is especially thankful to her husband Mr. Aminul Ahmed for his cooperation, constant encouragement and help throughout this study.
The author conveys her sincere thanks to UGC for granting teachers fellowship to complete this present work.

The author is very much grateful to her beloved parents who are no more in this world for their blessings and inspiration for this present work.

The author appreciates the help and support received from her colleague during her present study.

Last but not the least the author is thankful to all her well wisher whose names cannot be mentioned here, for their inspiration, encouragement and help throughout the work.

Date
Guwahati

(Ansul Begum)