ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. C. M. Sarma, M.Sc., Ph.D. (Gauhati University) for suggesting the problem and invaluable guidance during the course of investigation without whose constant encouragement and helpful suggestion it would have been impossible on my part to complete the thesis.

Further, I am grateful to Dr. N. Das, M.Sc., Ph.D. (London), F. N. A. Sc., Professor and Head of the department of Agricultural Botany, Gauhati University for providing me the laboratory facilities, which were in great need for the purpose of investigation.

My grateful thanks are also offered to my friends whose words of encouragement were a constant source of inspiration for me.

Mrinalini Gogoi,

Dated, Jalukbari,