ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. H.S. Chhatpar for his valuable guidance, encouragement, easily approachable nature and never ending patience. His constructive criticism helped me in all my analysis.

I particularly owe thanks to Dr. K.A. Patel for introducing me to this field of science and giving direction to this work; His guidance and critical evaluation during the course of this work made easy.

My sincere thanks to Dr. M.H. Mehta, Executive Director, GSFC, Baroda for his positive approach and enthusiasm, has always been a great source of encouragement to me.

The laboratory facilities and animals provided by Dr. G.P. Das Director, Sarabhai Research Centre, Baroda and support extended by Mr. A.V. Radhakrishnan is acknowledged.

I acknowledge the help received from Dr. K.S. Iyer and Dr. S.B. Moodbodri of Institute for Research in reproduction, Bombay.

I thank Kirti, Saumil, Rajul and Heena for everything they did for me. The help, cooperation, pleasant company and above all the encouragement I received from them made my working in the lab enjoyable and easy. Along with them I acknowledge all my colleagues, particularly Mr. Ketan Patel for his valuable help in my work.

I gratefully acknowledge the gift of Bacillus sphaericus 2362, 2297, 1593 and Bti H14 from Prof. Marguerite. M. Lecadet, Institute Pasteur France. I also thank them for conducting serotyping of our isolates.

The constant encouragement, moral support and help from Dharmendra, Vivek, Hanson, Sanjay and Nilesh, has greatly contributed in completion of this task.

Fellowship given by Gujarat State Fertilisers Company Ltd. is acknowledged.

The financial support given by PUSMB - 94, UNESCO - FAO/USMB - 95 and IUMS - 96 to attended the conferences is highly acknowledged.

I will remain obliged to my parents and other family members for their understanding, cooperation and patience, without their support and encouragement this work not have been completed.

I express my deep respect for the love, cooperation and support from Anjana.

The credit of neat and efficient typing goes to Shrishti and Impress Grafix.

Deepak Saxena