ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to express her most deep sense of gratitude to Prof. V. Subramaniam, B.Sc.Tech.(Mys.), M.Tech.(Mds.), Ph.D.(Mds.), Head of the Department of Textile Technology, A.C. College of Technology and the author's guide for his sustained encouragement, valuable guidance and time willingly spared in planning and executing this work.

She is also indebted to Late Dr. S. Krishnamoorthy, Professor and Head of the Department of Textile Technology, ACCT, for having initiated her research.

The author owes her indebtedness to her beloved husband and her little son, who have been extremely considerate, cooperative and encouraging, but for which, it would not have been possible for her to finish this work successfully.

She is also grateful to APAU, for having deputed her for higher studies and also to the ICAR for the award of SRF under its FIP programme.

She is thankful to the authorities of SITRA, Coimbatore who have permitted her to perform certain tests in their laboratories.

She owes her thanks to M/s. B & C Mills for having fabricated and donated the text fabrics and also for permitting her to carry out certain experiments in their laboratories.
She wishes to record her appreciation to the Prof. E.R.B. Shanmugasundaram, Head of the Department of Biochemistry for having given full freedom to the author in utilizing whatever facilities felt required.

Most sincere appreciation is also due to Dr. Ramaswamy, Assistant Director and Head of the Department of Chemistry, Dr. Loganatham, Department of Biophysics, CLRI, Madras, for permitting her to avail the laboratory facilities and to all members of the Textile Technology Department of ACCT, who have helped the author in some way or the other.

The author acknowledges with gratitude the suggestions given by Dr. Rajammal P. Devadoss, Correspondent, Shri Avinashilingam Chettiar Home Science College, Coimbatore.

She also records her sincere appreciation to Mr. N. Neelakantam, for his immense patience and meticulous typing of the manuscript.

She is also thankful to all her friends who have been helpful in completing the work.