Acknowledgements

My other mentors who have constantly advised me and showed me ways and means to overcome the confusing and baffling problems that are faced during my work. I owe a great debt of gratitude to my guide Dr. P. B. Papdiwal, Associate Professor, Department of Botany, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, who has permitted me to undertake this work; and for his meticulous guidance, boundless enthusiasm, suggestions and encouragement, throughout the course of the present investigation. I shall feel honored to remain indebted to him for ever.

I am grateful to Dr. V.S. Kothekar, Professor and Head, Department of Botany of this University, for providing the laboratory facilities during my research work.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. D. S. Pokale Ex-Professor Dept. of Botany of this University, Prof. A. M. Mungikar, Prof. A. M. Chavan, Prof. Dr. A. B. Ade, Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. S. Dabe of this Department for their help in various ways.

Words are inadequate to express my special thanks for the unstinted support, love and co-operation that I have received my family. My mother Pramilatai and Father Shaligram encouragement, love and inspiration kept me unbeaten about my work. My all family members offered me the moral support during this strenuous period.

I cannot find words to express my feelings for my brother Prof. Mahesh S. Harane and my vaihini Prof. Miss. Asmita M. Harane nurturing my dreams and making me to believe in me. He has been a stony-hold and constant source of inspiration all through my academic voyage.

I am especially thankful to Dr. Shivaji B. Andhale Department of Botany, Arts, Comm. And Science College Dindori, Nashik for making me for help in photography.
I wish to put on record the immense help given by my colleague in the laboratory Miss. Kalpana Bochre, Mr. Prakash Jadhawar and Mr. Naval Todawat for co-operation and help.

My sincere thanks to Mr. G. B. Teizad for typewriting assistance of the thesis and other non-teaching staff of this Department, for their help.

I am thankful to Mrs. Lata Papdiwal, Mrs. Varsha and Jivraj Papdiwal for their kind co-operation and moral support during the entire research.

To climb at a mountain is one side of the achievement but help to climb is another side of the same coin which is unforgettable. Here, I wish to take an opportunity to express my deep gratitude towards them who helped me directly or indirectly to complete this work.

Smita Shaligram Harane