ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am highly indebted to my guide Dr. V. Vasudev, Professor and Chairman, Department of PG studies and Research in Applied Zoology, Kuvempu University, B. R. Project for his inspiration and able guidance for carrying out the research work and preparing the thesis. I express my profound gratitude to the Ms. Lakshmi Venkatachalam IAS., Chairperson and Mr. Nitin R, Gokarn IAS., Secretary of Coffee Board, Bangalore for granting permission to pursue higher studies for my Ph. D. Degree. I am very much thankful to Dr. R. Naidu, Director of Research, Central Coffee Research Institute for his constant encouragement in my research work and providing the facilities at the Institute in carrying out the work. I am highly thankful to Dr. C. S. Srinivasan, Retired Joint Director (R), CCRI and Dr. Jayaram, Joint Director of Research, Central Coffee Research Institute for their encouragement and timely help in my task.

It would not have been possible for me to carry out the studies but for the constant support of the Entomology team at CCRI, which is gratefully acknowledged. I am immensely thankful to Mr. K, Sreedharan, Head Division of Entomology/Nematology, CCRI for his valuable suggestions and great help. I express my gratitude to Mr. P.K, Vinod Kumar, Scientific Officer who helped me as a constant inspirer and navigator in this work. I am thankful to my colleague, Dr. M. Dhanam, Assistant Specialist (Nematology), Mr. Basavaraj M. Chulaki, Socioeconomist and Mr. D.V. Krishnamurthy for the their support. My sincere thanks are also due to Dr. M.G. Venkatesha, my ex colleague and now Reader, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University, Bangalore for his help.
I express my sincere thanks to all my other colleagues at the Central Coffee Research Institute who have helped me directly or indirectly for completing this task.

I am thankful to Dr. S.V. Krishnamurthy, Reader, Department of Life Sciences and Dr. Riyaz Mahmood, Reader, Department of Biotechnology, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta for their support and encouragement to carry out this work. I am very much grateful to Mr. H. P. Gurushankar, Research Scholar, Dept. of Applied Zoology, Kuvempu University, B.R. Project for his whole-hearted support and assistance at various stages of my research work and preparation of the thesis.

I am very much thankful to the help rendered by Mr. H. Raghu, CCRJ in all my fieldwork. I am thankful to Mr. N. Manju, Mr. B. K. Manjunathaswamy, Miss. C. E. Asha, Miss. P. Jyothi, Mrs. Vijaya, Miss. Lakshmi, Mr. Chennakeshava, Mr. G. Karunakara and Mr. S. Chandra for their assistance in recording field data.

I wish to place on record the immense patience and constant moral support given by my wife Smt. Shyashree and daughter Kum. H. S. Shashwathi during the course of my research work. I am very much thankful to my Parents, Brothers, Sisters and all relatives for their moral support.

Date: 31.10.2003
Place: G. R. Aojek.

H. G. Seetharama