ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is with a profound sense of gratitude I acknowledge my guide Dr. C. Chandrasekhara Reddy, Reader in Zoology, Bangalore University, Bangalore for his enthusiastic and inspiring guidance and sustained effort in the completion of this work.

I thank Dr. P. Sivagnana Murthy, Professor and Chairman, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University for providing all the facilities to carry out this work.

I also thank the Vice Chancellor and Registrar of Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta - 577 451 for their help and encouragement during the tenure of my work.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. B. Abdul Rahiman, Professor and Chairman, Department of Life Science, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta - 577 451, for his constant encouragement.

I would like to thank all the Research scholars of Apiculture Research Laboratory, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University for their valuable suggestions.

I owe all my success to my parents, my husband and my son for their keen interest and constant encouragement throughout my study.

My thanks are also due to Mr. S.G. Siddalingeshwara and Mr. H.K. Girish, M/s Gaurav Institute Computers, Shimoga, for electronic typing of the thesis.

S. PADMALATHA RAI.
The thesis is formatted to the Journal "Environmental Entomology" United States of America.