ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It gives me immense pleasure to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. M. Ramachandra Mohan, Reader in Zoology, Bangalore University, Under whose supervision this work was carried out. It is my privilege and honour to extend my respects, regards and gratitude to him for his encouragement and guidance at every step, for valuable suggestion, encouragement and stimulating criticism during the course of this investigation.

I extend my sincere thanks to Prof. M.R. Delvi, Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University, for his valuable advice and facilities extended to me for this work.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. S. Krishnan, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University for critically reading through the manuscript of the thesis and offering suitable suggestions.

A sense of sincere gratitude is expresses to Prof. P. Sivgnana Murthy, Professor, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University for his valuable advise and needful help.

A sense of sincere gratitude is expressed to Dr. Bela Zutshi, Lecturer, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University for her encouragement and helpful suggestions during the course of this investigation.
The technical help rendered by Dr. Madhuker and Gopala Gowda (Research Officers) M/S. Rallis India Research station, Bangalore for their valuable help during the course of this study.

I extend my sincere thanks and wish to Dr. Puttaraju and Dr. Narase Gowda, Department of Sericulture, Bangalore University, Bangalore for allowing me to use the research microscope and their valuable help for photography.

I wish to extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Sowmya, Dr. Sheela, Dr. Shamala, Rama.S, Bhagya, Punya, Ramana, Naryana Swamy, Dr.Nagraj, Rudresh, Ravi, Vishwanath and Suresh.

I thank my laboratory colleagues Miss. Sathya, Miss. Kalpana, Raju and Kurunje for their co-operation throughout the course.

I express my gratitude to Savitha and Mahesh, Mahaveer Graphics, Vijayanagar, Bangalore of their word processing work.

I wish to acknowledge the affection and encouragement of my sister Chandrakala and brothers Somu, Sachin, Dharani, Purushotham & Naveen. Who helped me in various ways and my parents who have encouraged me throughout my work.

This work could not have been completed in-time but for the encouragement of my husband Ramana G.V. I am indebted to him for this affectionate gesture.

Sandhya Rani. P.N.