ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S. Shankara Bhat, Professor, Department of Studies in Botany and Microbiology, for introducing me to this field of research, for his valuable guidance, encouragement, constructive criticism and moral support throughout the period of the investigations. I also record my heartfelt thanks to his family members for their encouragement and moral support.

I am thankful to Prof. A. Nagabhushana Rao Sindhe, Chairman, and Professors Dr. T.C. Shivashankara murthy, Dr. S.N. Ramaswamy, Dr. C. Shanthamma, Dr. K.S. Jagadishchandra, former Chairpersons, Department of Studies in Botany and Microbiology, University of Mysore for extending necessary facilities for my research work in the Department.

I am greatly thankful to Dr. Elfriede E. Wechtl, Vienna Natural History Museum, Austria for critical examination of the characteristics of the pathogen, literature on Phomopsis, helpful comments in the identification and latin diagnosis.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. Alaka Pande, Agarkar Research Institute, Pune for latin diagnosis, Prof. J. B. Sinclair, Director, National Soybean Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, U.S.A., Dr. P.S. Bhavanishankara Gowda, University of Virginia, U.S.A. and Dr. M.M. Shenoi, Head, Division of Plant Pathology, Central Tobacco
Research Institute, Hunsur (Karnataka), India for their helpful and important literature provided.

Grateful thanks are due to Dr. D.J. Bhat, Professor, University of Goa, Goa, Dr. B.P.R. Vittal, Professor, Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany, Guindy Campus, Chennai, Dr. K. Gopinath, former Professor in Department of Studies in Zoology, Prof. G.R. Shivamurthy, Prof. S.P. Hosmani, Dr. H.G.V.G. Urs, Dr. K.A. Raveesha, Readers, Mr. K.M. Jayaramaiah, Mr. G.R. Janardhana, Lecturers, Department of Studies in Botany and Microbiology, University of Mysore for their help and valuable suggestions.

I express my gratitude to Prof. H. Shekara Shetty and Prof. H.S. Prakash, Department of Studies in Applied Botany and Biotechnology, University of Mysore for extending the facilities of HPLC.

It gives me great pleasure to thank Dr. T. Prabhu, Chief of Laboratory, Medinova Diagnostic Centre, Bangalore, Dr. K.S. Mohan, Dr. Lalitha Anand, Division of Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hessaraghatta, Bangalore and Mr. K.B. Sadananda, I.K.S., Mysore for their help in various stages of the research work.

I profusely thank Dr. N.S. Devaki and Mr. P. Venkatesh, University of Mysore for helpful suggestions. I also thank Mr. Lancey Desouza, University of Mysore for his help in statistical analysis of the data.
I am also grateful to the entire staff of the Department of Studies in Botany and Microbiology, University of Mysore and Department of Studies in Applied Botany and Biotechnology, University of Mysore for providing facilities for research work.

I appreciate the kind co-operation of Dr. Y.L. Krishnamurthy, Mr.K.U. Ganesh, Mr. R. Manjunath, Mr. L. Vasanth Kumar, Mr. S. Satish, Mr. Rachappaji, Mr. K.R. Dharanendra Gowda, Mr.N. Sathyanarayana, Ms. M.S. Rajani, Mr. Niranjana, Mr. Prakash, Mr. Partha, Mr. A.N. Ramesh, Mr. V. Ramasanjeeva and Mr. S.N. Prasad.

I am indebted to the U.G.C., New Delhi, for the award of the research fellowship and to the University of Mysore for providing the facilities during the period of my investigations.

The acknowledgements would be incomplete if, I do not thank my family members for their constant encouragement and moral support during the course of this research work.

M.K. SATEESH