ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am highly indebted to Dr. P.K. Das, M.Sc., Ph.D., Deputy Director, Vector Control Research Centre, Pondicherry, for his valuable guidance and encouragement throughout the study period, and for his valuable comments.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Padma Sri Dr. P.K. Rajagopalan, M.Sc., Ph.D., M.P.H. (Calif.), FIBiol. (U.K.), former Director, Vector Control Research Centre, Pondicherry, for his valuable suggestions and constant encouragement. I am also grateful to Dr. Vijai Dhanda, M.Sc., Ph.D., D.A.P.& E. (London), Director, Vector Control Research Centre, Pondicherry, for extending all the facilities at the Centre.

I am thankful to Dr. P. Jambulingam, Senior Research Officer, VCRC Field Station, Jeypore, for his help in planning and execution of the study. Thanks are due to Mr. C. Sadanandane, Mr. S.S. Sahu and Mr. K.P. Patra, Research Assistants for their help while collecting field data. I also extend my thanks to the technical staff, VCRC Field Station, Jeypore, for their assistance.

My sincere thanks are due to Dr. K. Balaraman, Dr. K.N. Panicker, Dr. S.P. Pani and Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Asst. Directors for their encouragement and help. I express my thanks to Dr. K. Krishnamoorthy, Research Officer for his painstaking efforts in the preparation of the manuscript. I also owe my thanks to Dr. K.D. Ramaiah, Asst. Research Officer, and Dr. R. Srinivasan and Dr. A.R. Rajavel, Technical Officers, for their valuable help. Mr. S. Subramanian and Mr. P. Vanamail, Technical Officers, are thankfully acknowledged for their help in statistical analysis.

I acknowledge the help rendered by Mr. P. Sakthivel, Mr. P.K.G.K. Pillai and Mr. R. Velayudham in preparing the illustrations, and to Mr. T. Lakshmipathi and Ms. T. Ahila in the neat production of the thesis.

K. CHAMBERLAIN