ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am deeply indebted to Dr. B. Neelakantan, Head of the Department of Marine Biology, Karnataka University, Kodibag, Karwar, for his advice, guidance, encouragement and constructive criticism during the course of this study.

I am grateful to Dr. K.N. Sankolli, former Head of the Department of Marine Biology, Karwar, for having introduced me to the subject and to Dr. V.B. Nadkarni, Prof. and Head of the Department of Zoology, Karnataka University, Dharwad, for his continuing encouragement. I acknowledge with respect, Dr. S. Basalingappa, Department of Zoology, Karnataka University, Dharwad, Dr. M.V. Pai, former officer-in-charge, Karwar substation of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Karwar, for their kind help, advice and encouragement. Also, my thanks are due to Late Sri. V.N. Kalghatgi, former Principal, Govt. Arts and Science College, Karwar, Prof. V. Joseph, Principal, Govt. Arts and Science College, Karwar, Dr. Shakuntala Shenoy, Mrs. Kusuma, Sri. S.H. Singatalur and Sri. L.V. Andrade, for their encouragement.

I gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance in the form of Junior Research Fellowship of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi and special financial assistance for Teachers of the University Grants
Commission, New Delhi. Also, my sincere thanks are due to the
Director of Collegiate Education in Karnataka, Bangalore for
permitting me to pursue this research work.

During the course of the present work, valuable help in
the form of reprints and advice were received from many
renowned carcinologists from India and abroad - Doctors
P.A. McLaughlin, Janet Haig, A.J. Provenzano, J. Forest,
R. Nagabhushanam, R. Sarojini, B.A. Hazlett, A.L. Rice,
M.H. Roberts, P.E. Roberts, E.E. Ball, R.M. Ross, E.S. Reese,
C.V. Kurian and others. I am grateful to every one of them.

I am grateful to the Directors, Zoological Survey of
India, Calcutta, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute,
Cochin and authorities of the Bombay Natural History Society
Museum, Taraporewala Aquarium, Royal Institute of Science,
Bombay, for providing the library and laboratory facilities
during the course of this study.

Lastly, I express my gratitude to Dr. V.S. Kakati,
Messers A.V. Powar, S.N. Nayak, V.N. Hittanagi, R.N. Mugali,
S.J. Nayak, M.M. Hosalkar, M.V. Powar, R.H. Nayak and N.G.
Nayak who were of full encouragement.

KARWAR
SEPTEMBER, 1982.

Venkatray N. Nayak