ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. A. V. Narasubhai, Department of Zoology, Karnataka University, Dharwad, under whose valuable supervision and guidance the present work was carried out, without her constructive criticisms and immense encouragement, it would not have been possible to complete my research work.

I sincerely thank Prof. R. D. Kamamadi, Chairman, Post-graduate Department of studies in Zoology, Karnataka University, Dharwad, for providing facilities to carry out his work.

I am also thankful to Dr. Y. Ram Mohanrao, Professor, Department of Zoology, JJS Science College, Dharwad, for his encouragement and help during the course of this investigation.

I am also thankful to the librarians of the Chemistry Department, and Main library Karnataka University, Dharwad, for providing me necessary books in time.

My sincere thanks are due to my research colleagues Mr. Ramesh Ritti, Mr. T. N. Patil, Miss Kusuma Karale, and friends Miss Uma C. Jadaramkunti, Mr. Mahantesh Bisnal, Mr. M. R. Badiger, Mr. Prakash
Mr. K. S. Goudar, Mr. M. B. Hiremath, and Dr. B. S. Bhajantri, who have helped me in one or the other way during the course of the present work.

I profusely thank all my respected teachers and non-teaching staff of post-graduate department of studies in Zoology, Karnataka University, Dharwad, for their help and co-operation rendered during my research work.

I thank Apeksha Computers, Dharwad, for timely and neat work in bringing out this thesis.

Dharwad

Date: 18/12/1997

SUGANDA B. KURI