PREFACE

In a developing country like India, agriculture and growth in agricultural production plays an important role. Progress of national economy depends on the growth of agricultural production. The surplus production of agricultural goods has posed a challenge to the efficient marketing of agricultural produce. Regulation of markets and market practices not only stimulates agricultural production but also accelerates the pace of economic development. It is not only a simple system of buying and selling of agricultural produce but a complex one consisting of activities like assembling, grading, standardisation, storage, processing, transportation etc. In the old system of marketing farmers incurred heavy marketing cost due to illegal deductions and various malpractices that predominated. The state introduced various legislative measures to reduce the loss incurred by the producer and improve marketing conditions. Regulation of markets controlled the various functionaries operating in it resulting into systematic performance. Thus, a systematic way of the sale of agricultural commodities in the market is evolved. The successful performance of a regulated market depends on the facilities provided by the respective agricultural produce market committee. A study of the structural pattern of regulated market yards, market area, organisation, financial management, growth process and functioning of the agricultural produce market committees in Dharwad district has both academic and applied importance.
I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S.S. Hugar, Professor and Chairman, Dean, Faculty of Commerce, Dept. of Studies in Commerce, Karnataka University Dharwad, Karnataka, for his guidance, help and encouragement in writing this thesis. I am deeply grateful to him for his kindness and patience in directing my writing without which it might not have been possible for me to undertake this endeavour.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. S.G. Hundekar, Dr. M.R. Sholapur, Dr. R.L. Hyderabad members of the staff Department of Commerce, Karnataka University, Dharwad, for their useful suggestions and advice.

I am grateful to the Deputy Director, Agriculture Marketing, Dharwad for providing necessary information during the course of my work. I extend my thanks to the Chairman and Members of agriculture produce market committees for their help and co-operation. I thank all the officials, Secretaries and staff of the Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Dharwad, Hubli, Kundgol, Annigeri and Kalghatgi for providing annual reports and information pertaining to my research work. I also thank the Principal, Agricultural Marketing Staff Training College, Vidyanagar, Hubli for providing necessary information, literature on Agricultural Marketing. I express my sincere thanks to Smt. S.C. Koti, Lecturer in Statistics, S.J.M.V. Mahalakshmi First Grade Arts and Commerce College, Dharwad for her valuable help in the formulation and preparation of tables and charts.
I take this opportunity to express my respectful reverence to Shri. Jagadguru Shivamurthy Murugharajendra Swamiji, Murugharajendramath, Chitradurga, for his blessings. My sincere and heartfelt gratitude are due to Shri.S.K. Basavarajan, Administrator, Shri. Jagadguru Murugharajendramath, Chitradurga and Shri.K.M.Veeresh, Administrator, Shri.S.J.M.Vidyapeetha, Chitradurga for giving me an opportunity to complete my research work.

My father Shri.M.B.Kadkol, Chartered Accountant and Retd. Professor, J.G. College of Commerce, Hubli, brothers, sister, wife daughters Susheela, Sushma and other relatives were a constant source of encouragement and support. I am deeply indebted to all of them.

I express my appreciation to the staff of Karnataka University Library, Dharwad, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad who readily helped me to procure books and journals whenever I needed them.

I thank Shri. S.C.Wali and Shri.Gopal Rotti for their help in field work. I also thank Shri.S.S.Hiremath the photographer and Shri.Jagadish, Vishwa Graphics, Dharwad.

I extend my thanks to Shri.Manjunath D. Kumbar, Shree Mrityunjaya Xerox Centre, Dharwad for getting the thesis neatly typed and book binding in time.

Dharwad  
14-8-2002  
(Shri.C.M.Kadkol)