ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deep indebtedness to Dr. A.B. Kulkarni, Lecturer in Zoology, Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, Aurangabad under whose scholarly and expert supervision the present work has been completed. I am immensely benefited by his inspiring guidance and constant encouragement throughout the present study.

I am very much thankful to Dr. R.Nagabhushanam, Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, for providing the laboratory and library facilities. My sincere thanks are due to Dr. P.G. Deshmukh, Reader in Zoology, Marathwada University, for his kind cooperation and encouragement.

Specially, I am very much obliged to Dr. (Mrs.) Dnyanada Kulkarni, for her unreserved help, patient and willing cooperation throughout the present study.

I give my most sincere thanks to Shri D.S. Bodhankar and Dr. (Mrs.) Usha Joshi for their help in numerous ways. I tender my grateful thanks to Principal Dr. B.R. Keshavan and Dr. (Mrs) R. Keshavan of Science College, Nanded for their encouragements.

I wish to record my thanks to the authorities of Marathwada University and University Grants Commission, New Delhi for providing me the financial assistance through a research project on molluscan endocrinology.

I am grateful to Shri Nitin Nikam for excellent typing of thesis and Shri Bhopi, S.Y. for skilled photomicrography.

Many friends and colleagues have helped me in a number of ways. Although their names do not appear here for obvious reasons, I owe a special debt of gratitude to them all.

Department of Zoology,  
Marathwada University,  
AURANGABAD

December 4, 1982