Acknowledgement

I wish to express my sincere thanks and deep sense of gratitude to my guide, Dr. Mrs. Vrushali S. Tare, Entomology, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune; for her valuable guidance throughout the course of this work.

Thanks are also to Head, Department of Zoology, HPT Arts and RYK Science College, Nasik, for her constant encouragement and support throughout the endeavor. I am also thankful to my colleagues, students and friends for their kind help and cooperation. I also wish to thank all the Entomology staff members of National Chemical Laboratory, Pune for their cooperation and kind help.

Special thanks are to Dr. Mrs. Sumedha Deshmukh, Biochemistry Division, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, for her timely and valuable guidance.

I am quite overwhelmed while expressing my feelings towards each one in the family for the motivation they have given in completion of work. Last but not the least I would like to pay my sincere regards to my mother-in-law, for her constant support and encouragement, without which the thesis would have not been completed.

Dhumal Kishori T.

Research Student