ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my sublime privilege to express my deepest gratitude and veneration for my supervisor Dr. M. R. Singh, Reader and Head, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Post Graduate College, Ghazipur and Co-supervisor Dr. G. Prasad, Reader and Head, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, S.D.J. P.G. College Chandeshwar, Azamgarh for his meticulous guidance, indelible inspiration, constant encouragement and constructive criticism throughout the course of this investigation and preparation of the manuscript.

I am immensely thankful and deeply indebted to Dr. G. Singh, Senior Lecturer, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding; Prof. A. N. Singh, Principal, Post Graduate College Ghazipur and Dr. P.C. Singh, Principal, S.D.J. P.G. College Chandeshwar, Azamgarh for their keen interest, prudent and valuable suggestions and guidance during the preparation of this manuscript.

I am also thankful to Dr. V. Yati, Reader and head, Department of Horticulture, Post Graduate College, Ghazipur; Dr. M. K. Mishra and Dr. U. P. Pandey, lecturers, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Post Graduate College Ghazipur for their help and encouragement.

I am thankful to Mr. Kamlesh Ram, Mr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. P.C. Prajapati, and my lovely freinds for their affection and moral support.

The words in my knowledge are not adequate to express my depth of feeling for my mother Smt. Ram Rati Singh, father Sri Ram Roop Singh Yadav, younger brothers Mr. Ashok Yadav, Mr. Santosh Yadav, my wife Smt. Geeta Yadav and my son Mr. Aashutosh, daughters Km. Divya, Km. Nisha, Km. Aashim, whose love affection and encouragement made me forget all my pains and kept me going in harder times

I am highly thankful to Mr. H. N. Pandey for neat typing work.

Ghazipur:

November, 2005

Vijay Kumar Singh Yadav

(VIJAY KUMAR SINGH YADAV)