ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author expresses deep sense of gratitude to the supervisor, Prof. S.K. Saxena, Department of Botany, A.M.U. Aligarh, for suggesting this problem, inspiring guidance, consistent encouragement, valuable suggestions throughout the course of investigations and preparation of manuscript.

She is indebted to the Chairman, Department of Botany, A.M.U. Aligarh, for providing necessary library and laboratory facilities.

Financial assistance rendered by council of Scientific and Industrial Research in the form of senior research fellowship during the course of studies, is also greatly acknowledged.

Sincere thanks are also due to all lab colleagues and friends for their kind co-operation and encouragement throughout the studies.