ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I consider it to be a exceptional opportunity and privilege to express my reverential gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Pratheesh Kumar, P.M., Scientist-D, Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute, Srirampura, Mysore for encouraging and suggesting this topic of record, inspiring guidance, ingenious suggestions, incisive and constructive approach and effort even beyond call of duty without which this piece of work would not have been successful. His cooperation and consideration at the time of preparation of the thesis are remarkable and commendable for which I will be grateful to him forever.

I express my gratitude Dr. V. Sivaprasad Director, Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute, Srirampura, Mysore for his support and encouragement.

I am highly indebted to Dr. Dasappa, Head of Department of Agronomy for his active co-operation as reckoner at the time of need and help in this work.

My profound gratefulness and thanks to Members of Doctor Committee Dr. M. Balavenkatasubbaiah, Scientist-D, Dr. Dasappa, Scientist-D, Dr. T. Mogili, Scientist-D, Dr. Vineet Kumar, Scientist-D for their valuable and constructive suggestions.

My sincere thanks to Dr. S.M.H. Qadri, former Director, CSRTI, Mysore, for his encouragement and administrative support for perusing this work.

My special thanks to Dr. Dayakar Yadav, former, Scientist-D and HOD Mulberry Pathology, CSRTI, Mysore for his suggestions during preparation of the manuscript and Ms Rekha, Assistant Director, Statistics, CSRTI, Mysore for statistical analysis and for helping to interpret the data. Thanks also to Mr. H. M. Munikrishnappa, Scientist-C, Project Monitoring Cell, CSRTI, for correspondence with University of Mysore, Mysore.

I am extremely thankful to Scientists Dr. S. Sen. Dr Arun Kumar, CSRTI, Mysore, for their help during the work and various stages of preparation of this thesis.

I thank Dr. Nissar Ahmad Reshi, Mr. Guneshwar Churendra, Computer Programmer, Mr. Balakrishnan Technical Assistant, Mr. Sathish Chandra Babu, Technical Assistants, Ms. Gayathri, Attender, who have played catalytic role throughout this work.
I am quite unable to find appropriate words to express my deepest sense of gratitude to my beloved mother Smt. Prabha Devi, Father Shri. Ram Bali Yadav, Dada Rajpal Yadav, mother-in-law Smt. Gujrati Devi, grandfather-in-law Shri. Ram Daur Yadav, father-in-law Shri. Shabhajeet Yadav, my brothers Shri Ashok Kumar, Shri Ram Yagya, and Bhabhi Smt. Usha Devi, sisters Smt. Rekha Kumari Bindu, my Brother-in-law Shri Ram Tirath and Shri. Brijesh Vijay Yadav, sister-in-law Aneeta Yadav and my beloved daughters Vibhu Yadav, Vasu Yadav and Vaanya Yadav, cousin Annapurna Yadav, Sri Ankesh Yadav and Avanendra Yadav for their constant encouragement, moral and emotional support rendered throughout this work for which I will remain indebted to them throughout my life.

I would like to thank my wife Dr. Sangeeta Yadav, who has been a strength and soulful inspiration in initiating this mighty task and complete it successfully.

Further, I thank all officers and staff of Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute who have directly or indirectly helped me for the work and also I extend my thanks to all my friends and well-wishers who have helped me in various occasions during the work.

VINOD KUMAR YADAV