ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe my sincere gratitude to my research supervisor Dr. N. J. Shetty, Professor Emeritus, Centre for Applied Genetics, Bangalore University, for his constant support, guidance and encouragement, throughout my study period. His guidance helped me throughout the course of my research and the writing of this thesis.

I express my sincere thanks to my research co-supervisor Prof. Ananthanarayana S.R., Department of Sericulture, Bangalore University, for his help and encouragement during the course of my research.

I duly acknowledge the Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS) – Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Mumbai, for providing the junior research fellowship (JRF) from the project sanctioned to Prof. N. J. Shetty, during the course of my study.

I would like to thank Prof. Bela Zutshi, Chairperson, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University; Prof. Usha Anandhi, Coordinator Centre for Applied Genetics, Bangalore University, and Prof. M. Shankar Reddy, former Chairman, Department of Zoology and Co-ordinator, Centre for Applied Genetics and currently, Registrar (Evaluation), Bangalore University for their support and encouragement. I am also thankful to all former Co-ordinators of the Centre for Applied Genetics, for their timely help and support.

I am grateful to Dr. Harini B.P., Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University; Dr. Annappa Poojari, Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, Government Women’s College, Kolar, and Mr. Purushothama D.V., Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Bangalore University for their support and encouragement throughout my study.

It is a great pleasure to extend thanks to Prof. Ravi Kumar, his students, and the staff members of the Department of Radiation Physics, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru and Prof. Somashekarappa and Mr. Swaroop, at the Centre for Application of Radioisotopes and Radiation Technology (CARRT), Mangalore University, Mangalore, for providing radiation facility and support.

Thanks are also due to Dr. Vikas, Ms. Deepti and Mr. Rafay Khan, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (CCAMP), NCBS, Bengaluru, for their assistance in analysing proteomics data. I would also like to acknowledge Dr. Suresh R., Assistant Professor, Dept. of Statistics, Karnataka University, for helping me in statistical analysis of data.
My former and present research colleagues, Dr. Hariprasad TPN, Dr. Sanil Deepak, Mr. Soumithra K., Mr. Mohamed Shameer P., Ms. Geetha C.K., and Ms. Savitha Nair, have been a constant source of support and encouragement, for which I am deeply indebted. Also, I am thankful to Ms. B. S. Indiramma for her help in managing financial accountings of the research project.

I am extremely thankful to all my friends — the teaching staff, research scholars and nonteaching staff — from different departments of Bangalore University for their valuable criticism, encouragement and support in various ways during the course of my research work.

Finally, I must express my very profound gratitude to my parents, my brother and my sister for their love, encouragement, prayer, and support without which it wouldn’t have been possible for me complete this research.

Vinaya Shetty