ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have my broadest privilege to express my sincere and deep gratitude to Dr. Dhirendra Kumar, M.Sc. Ph.D. Reader in Botany, P.P.N. College, Kanpur for his invaluable advice, noble guidance and supervision and constructive suggestions in the present investigations.

I am also grateful to Dr. (Mrs.) Arunima Kumar, Head of Hindi Department, J.D.V.M. Degree College, Anand Bagh, Kanpur for her help and encouragement in completion of my studies leading to doctorate degree.

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. A. Prasad, M.Sc.(Ag.), Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.H.S. (London), F.I.A.H.Sc., F.I.S.T.E., Former Dean, Agriculture and Professor and Head, Department of Horticulture, C.S. Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur for his guidance and suggestions time to time. He has also given me support day to day need with the spot guidance and provided the required facilities for the material and successful investigations in the field.

I am also grateful to Dr. S.R.S. Chandel, M.Sc., Ph.D. Retd. Professor of Agricultural Statistics for his help in statistical work, Dr. R. Kumar, N.B.R.I., Lucknow and Dr. S. Arya, D.G. College, Kanpur for their help in the present investigations.
I have no words to express heartful gratitude to my mother-in-law Smt. Ram Dulari Gupta and father-in-law Dr. Suresh Chandra Gupta who encouraged and provided me all the facilities in respect of my higher studies for Ph.D. degree.

I am specially thankful to my husband Dr. Deep Chandra Gupta who helped me and gave atmosphere for carrying out research work and writing the manuscript in this form of thesis. Thanks are also due to my daughter Archita and son Deepankur for their invaluable support and patience throughout the course of present investigations.

My heartful thanks are due to my mother Smt. R.D. Gupta and father Sri Badri Prasad Gupta who always encouraged and helped me for conducting research for award of Ph.D. degree.

(ARCHANA GUPTA)

KANPUR