ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At this juncture of time, looking back at my Ph.D. programme, I want to express my sincere thanks and gratefulness to My mentor and guide, Dr. S. M. Aradhya, Scientist, Department of Fruits and Vegetables Technology, CFTRI, Mysore for his excellent guidance and for enabling me to grow with the freedom of thought and expression throughout my stay in his laboratory.

Dr. S. Rajarathnam, Head, Department of fruits and vegetable technology for his encouragement and support.

Dr. G. Venkateshwara Rao The Director and Dr. V. Prakash farmer Director of CFTRI, for providing me an opportunity to work for my Ph.D. at CFTRI and for constant encouragement.

Dr. R.S. Ramteke, Scientist, Department of fruits and vegetables for his encouragement. Dr. P.V. Salimath, Head, Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition for helping me in conducting the diabetic study.

Dr. L. Jaganmohan Rao, Scientist, Department of Plantation Products, Spices and Flavour Technology for his useful suggestions in my research work.

All the scientists and supporting staffs of FVT department for their timely help and encouragement during the course of my Ph.D. I gratefully remember the help and services of other departments of CFTRI, Scientific and support staffs of Central Instrument facility and Institution Watch and ward.

My colleagues and friends at the CFTRI, Harshavardhan reddy, Swaroop kumar, Police goudra, Chandu, Sugasini, Antony Peter raja, Umesh, Ajit Singh Bhatnagar, Amit Kumar Das, Prashanth, Mallikarjun, Jamuna, Manjunatha, Mohan kumari, Deepak, Anbarasu, Kumaresan for all their friendly scientific discourse, good will, help and support.

The University of Grant Commission, New Delhi, for the award of Junior and Senior Research Fellowships from 2005 – 2010.

My parents, sister and brother-in-law for their continued support and encouragement throughout my career.

Saravanan. K.