To,
The Academic Registrar
Gauhati University
Guwahati -14

Sir,
We have the pleasure in forwarding the thesis titled “Transcript Profiling of Defence Response to *Exobasidium vexans* and Identification of Molecular Marker(s) Associated with Blister Blight Disease in Tea” submitted by Ms. Priyadarshini Bhorali for examination in fulfilment of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Biotechnology in the Faculty of Technology of Gauhati University.
The research work has been carried out under the joint guidance of the undersigned, in the Department of Biotechnology, Tocklai Experimental Station, TRA, Tocklai, Jorhat and Department of Biotechnology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam. The thesis is the result of research work of Priyadarshini Bhorali and has not been submitted before in this or any other form at this or any other university. The candidate has fulfilled the entire requirement under the Ph.D. regulation of Gauhati University.

Yours faithfully,

Sudripta Das                     Soneswar Sarma
I/C Department of Biotechnology  Professor
TES, TRA, Jorhat                Department of Biotechnology
Assam, India.                   Gauhati University
                                      Assam, India.
DECLARATION

I, Priyadarshini Bhorali, hereby declare that the thesis titled “Transcript Profiling of Defence Response to *Exobasidium vexans* and Identification of Molecular Marker(s) Associated with Blister Blight Disease in Tea” submitted for fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Biotechnology under the Faculty of Technology, Gauhati University, is a record of original and independent research work carried out by me during 2008 to 2011 under the joint supervision and guidance of Dr. Sudripta Das, I/C Department of Biotechnology, TRA, Tocklai Experimental Station, Jorhat and Dr. Soneswar Sarma, Professor, Department of Biotechnology, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

I further declare, that the thesis or part thereof has not been previously submitted for award of any other degree to this university or any other university/ institution.

Priyadarshini Bhorali
Ph.D. Student
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