ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It gives me great pleasure to express my gratitude to my respected guide, Dr. (Mrs.) M.A. Padhya, Ex. Head, Dept. of Botany for her meticulous guidance, constructive criticism and constant encouragement enabling me to bring the present endeavour to successful culmination.

My sincere thanks to the former Heads of the Dept. Prof. R.P. Bhatt and Prof. S.J.Bedi for providing adequate research facilities.

I am deeply indebted to my parents, Capt. (Dr.) O.P. Srivastava, Mrs. Asha Srivastava, brother, Mr. Anupam Srivastava, and sister-in-law, Mrs. Neena Srivastava for their moral support during the study period.

It gives me pleasure to express my thanks to my collageue, Dr. (Mrs.) Aruna Joshi who helped me during the present investigation.

My special thanks goes to Mr.Ramanbahi Patel for photography and Pooja Gangaramani for excellent typing of this thesis.

Special acknowledgement are expressed to Acharya Research fellowship for financial assistance during 1992-94.

My sincere thanks are expressed to Dr.U.Dayal, Scientist, I.P.C.L. for helping me in Gas chromatotographic analysis at their R&D section. Lastly, I wish to thank all staff members of the Department and my research collegues who helped me in many ways.

PRATIMA SRIVASTAVA