

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It gives me immense pleasure to express my deep sense of gratitude towards my guide, Prof. P. M. Ambadkar, Head, Department of Zoology, M.S. University of Baroda, for suggesting the problem and for his continuous guidance through out the course of this investigation. Without his constant encouragement, constructive criticism and inspiring guidance, it would not have been possible for me to carry out the present work.

I am very highly grateful to the Government of India for the award of a Research Fellowship, under the tenure of which this work has been carried out. I am also grateful to the Government of Bangladesh for granting me 3 years deputation from my service.

I also wish to acknowledge my sincere thanks to Dr. P. V. Patel, Reader, Department of Zoology, M. S. University of Baroda, for encouragement and help.

During the course of my research work I received a lot of encouragement and co-operation from the research students, teaching and non-teaching staff members of this Department for which I am grateful to them.

I greatly acknowledge the help rendered by Prof. S. D. Sabnis, Head, Department of Botany and Dr. M. Daniel, Reader, from the Phytochemistry Laboratory of the same Department for analysing various plant extracts used in the present work. I am also thankful to Dr. S. N. Padate, Reader (Retired), Department of Botany, M. S. University of Baroda, for identifying all the plant species used in the present investigation.

I would be failing in my duties if I do not express my sincere thanks to Prof. M. Ameen, Department of Zoology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, for enhancing my interest in the field of research.

Without the encouragement and co-operation of my parents and family members this thesis would not have been completed. I am also grateful to my wife, Mrs. Rehana Sultana Rani, for her moral support and bearing patiently with my working at odd hours.

I wish to mention particularly my friend, Mr. Abdul Jabber Howlader for his co-operation and assistance throughout the present investigation.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Benjamin S. Suwartic for the excellent typing of the manuscript.