ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My postgraduate journey is nearing an end. As I sit today in retrospect, I picture myself naive about research and now I wonder how in spite of it, I am at its final course. Certainly, one man flashes distinctly before my mental eye unmistakably, he is my honourable Major Guide Dr. R. S. Yadav, Senior Scientist (Soil Science) ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh. I have no words to express my heartfelt thanks to him for his illuminating guidance, unfailing encouragement, scholarly suggestions, constructive criticism, judicious supervision, sympathetic attitudes, amiable behaviour and keen interest throughout the course of this investigation and preparation of the manuscript.

This memorable occasion provides to me a unique privilege to offer sincere thanks to the advisory committee, Dr. R. K. Mathukia (Minor Guide), Associate Research Scientist, Department of Agronomy., Dr. S. G. Savalia (Member), Associate Director of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh and Dr. S. M. Upadhyay (Member), Professor & Head, Department of Agril. Statistics, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh for their useful suggestions, constant attention and help throughout the period of investigation.

I also record my sincere thanks to Dr. A. R. Pathak, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Director of Research & Dean PG Studies and by Dr. B. K. Sagaraka, Principal & Dean, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh for providing necessary facilities during this study.

I am highly thankful to Dr. N. B. Babaria, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science, JAU, Junagadh, for valuable suggestions and providing necessary facilities to carry my research experiment and for their ever willing co-operation, encouragement and care.

I am extremely thankful to Director, ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh for giving an opportunity to work under able guidance of Dr. R. S. Yadav, Senior Scientist (Soil Science) and providing necessary facilities as and when required.

I am sincerely thankful to Dr. N. M. Zalawadia, Dr. Marsonia, Dr. K. B. Polara, Dr. J. V. Polara, Dr. A. V. Rajani, Dr. L. C. Vekariya and Dr. K. B. Parmar, and all the staff members of Department of Agril. Chemistry & Soil Science for providing guidance and necessary help during period of study.

I acknowledge the willing help & generous cooperation provided by Dr. B. K. Sagaraka, Professor & Head, Dr. M. A. Shekh, and Dr. R. M. Solanki and all the staff members of Department of Agronomy.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to staff members of Central Library, ‘C’ branch of Principal office and Examination branch of Registrar office for their cooperation during my study.

I am really grateful to my seniors Ragavendra, Narasimha Reddy, Alokh, Bhanu, Krishna, Avinash, Balakrishna, Jagadeesh, Venu, Vendan, Pankaj, Sunil, Abinandan, Abimanyu, Sachine, Nagesh, Sandeep, Ramesh, Rakesh, Sharanya, Gangadhar, Chandramohan, Nataraj, Kiran Reddy and the staff of ICAR-DGR for their kind cooperation and affection during the course of my study and field work.

I am really grateful to my friends Ambarisha, Ravisha, Munee, Mohan, Prasad Reddy, Satisha, Kiran, Mahesh, Handi, Nagappa, Kempa, Mohan, Sanjay, Rakshit, Suresh, Manasa, Thejas, Shivaprasad, Harisha, Manjunath, Varadha, Hemanth, Lokesh, Vinayaka, Yashvanth, Noushad, Prakash, Madhu, Bharatha, Anand, Chaman, Vikram,
Ajith, Lakhpathi, Venu, Aravindh, Bhavani, Chinthan, Vatsal, Dharmikh, Vijay, Deendayal, Janaki, Shivprasad, Jithendar, Ravi, Rahul, Amar, Marky, for timely help and cooperation during the course of my study and field work.

I am really grateful to my junior friends Prajwal, Basavalinga, Ganga, Veeru, Pruthvi, Devanand, Manoj, Athul, Reddy, Patil, Mukhul, Shekavat, Sanjay, for help and cooperation as and when during the course of my study and field work.

Finally, I express deepest sense of gratitude towards my beloved Father Rajanna D. and Mother Smt. Sunandha, and my sister Deepa, and my brother Vijay, Prince whose selfless love, filial affections, constant encouragement, obstinate sacrifices, sincere prayer, expectations and blessing have always been vital source of inspiration in my life.

To all of you whom I have named please accept my deepest thanks and to whom I have not named please know that even though you are unnamed in this work you are not unknown to me and you are appreciated more thanks.

The fulfilment of this research is due to the cooperation of many people. Therefore, I can only hope that I mention you all and those who I forget at this moment please forgive me and despite this lapse I really do appreciate you all. But above all I owe my deep sense of gratitude to God "Lord Shiva and Hanuman" for their choicest blessings and strength that made it possible for me to complete my studies and enabling me to accomplish this great task. He was the greatest source of all resources and provision, whether financial, moral or emotional; He was with me all

Place : Junagadh
Date : 06/07/2017  

(Dileepkumar R)