ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have great pleasure and privilege in expressing my deep sense of gratitude and sincere regards to the most influential person in my postgraduate career, my major guide, Dr. A. V. Khanapra, Programme Coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JAU, Targhadiya and chairman of my Advisory Committee for expertly evaluating, judiciously correcting and continually offering his inspiring guidance, constant encouragement and help during the course of investigation and preparation of manuscript.

I also express my unboundful and sincere thanks to the members of my advisory committee, Dr. N. G. Mayani, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh; Dr. M. F. Acharya, Professor & Head, Department of Entomology, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh and Dr. D. V. Patel, Associate Professor, Department of Agril. Statistics, JAU, Junagadh for their useful and valuable suggestions rendered at various stages of the investigation.

I acknowledge with my thanks to Dr. A. R. Pathak, the Vice-Chancellor and to Dr. V. P. Chovatia, the Director of Research and Dean, P.G. Studies, JAU, Junagadh for giving me an opportunity to improve my career by granting admission for M.Sc. study. I am also grateful to Dr. B. K. Sagarka, the Principal & Dean, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh.

My unboundful and sincere thanks to Dr. A. V. Khanapra, Programme Coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JAU, Targhadiya for his valuable suggestions and seeing critically manuscript.

I especially thankful to Dr. K. L. Raghvani (Ex. Professor and Head, Department of Entomology, JAU, Junagadh), Dr. V. R. Virani, Dr. D. M. Jethva, Shri. M. K. Ghelani, Shri J. B. Bhat, Shri. M. V. Variya and Shri. A. M. Bhimani and all other staff members of Department of Entomology, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh for their continuous help and support during the course of this study.

I owe my loving thanks to my team members, Kanjia Ravi, Godhani Bhavesh, Bajania Mehul, Sheetal Barad, Rakesh Labana, Vanparya Jaydip, Ladumor Sandip, Ram Hardik, Jatin Hirpara, Mungla Rahul, Akash Kachot, Krishna Savariya, Moghriya Nikunj, Ram Jayesh, Arvindrajan and Sanju Thorat for their valuable assistance and moral support during work.
I am grateful to my seniors, Nil Bhalodiya, Dhrmesh Jadav, Lalji Hadiya, Minesh Rathva, Raval Dilip, Vaibhav Dadhaniya, Dhaval Bhadani, Dodia Kalapi, Katariya Hitesh and Rathod Ramesh for their timely help and kind cooperation during the course of my study and field work for their encouragement and helpful suggestions during work.

I am really grateful to my junior friends, Hadiya Sanjay, Nakum Prakash, Kaushik Ladumor, Lalji Baldaniya, Dipak Katariya, Gignesh Hadiya, Umesh Hadiya for their timely help and kind cooperation during the course of my study and field work.

It is with deepest sense of gratitude that I wish to place on record the immense debt that I owe to my beloved and respected parents. It is just because of their countless sacrifices and blessing; I have been able to accomplish this much. My father Shri. Shamjibhai B. Bambhaniya and my mother Smt. Chaturaben S. Bambhaniya always show me the way of win that is why I always want to be winner in each stage of life.

I feel short of words to express my deep sense of reverence and indebtedness to my sister Miss. Ranjanben S. Bambhaniya and brother Umang S. Bambhaniya, kamlesh S. Bambhaniya and my wife Geeta and son Tirth and cousin brother Bhupatbhai, Sureshbhai, Rajubhai, Vajubhai, Mheshbhai, Ravat and Mayur lovely nephew Aarav for their sacrifices and everlasting love which enabled me to reach at this stage.

Last but not least, I am in short of words to express the grace of my beloved. Grandfather Shri. Bhikhabhai, Grandmother Smt. Jahiben and “Punbai ma” which is ever with me.

Place: Junagadh

Date: (V. S. Bambhaniya)