ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is a matter of pleasure to glance back and recall the path one traverses during the days of hard work and perseverance. I is still great at this juncture to recall all the faces and spirit in the form of teachers, friends, near and dear ones. I would consider this work nothing more than incomplete without attending to the task of acknowledging help I received during this endeavour of mine.

I avail myself of this opportunity with great pleasure in acknowledging my deepest sense of veneration and gratitude to my major guide Dr. N. B. Patel, Assistant Professor, Department of Genetic and Plant Breeding, College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh for his supernatural guidance, critical suggestions, pain staking interest, constant inspiration, judicious supervision, amiable behaviour and timely advice during the course of investigation which is chiefly responsible for preparation of this manuscript.

I wish to my cordial thanks to the members of advisory committee, Dr. C. A. Babariya (Minor guide), Assistant Professor, Department of Seed Science and Technology, College of Agriculture JAU, Junagadh, Dr. A. G. Pansuriya (Member), Associate Research Scientist, Wheat Research Station JAU, Junagadh, Dr. D. V. Patel (Member), Associate Professor Department of Agricultural Statistics JAU, Junagadh for their valuable suggestions and timely help during the course of investigation.

I acknowledge with thanks to Dr. A. R. Pathak, Vice Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Directorate of Research and Dean P.G. Studies, JAU Junagadh, Dr. B. K. Sagarka, Principal, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh and Dr. C. K. Mandavia, Professor and Head, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, College of Agriculture, Junagadh for providing necessary facilities for conducting the research work. I wish to record my sincere thanks to staff members of ‘C’ branch and Library staff for their necessary help and cooperation to me during the period of study.

At this juncture, I express my sincere thanks to Miss Lata J. Raval for their valuable suggestions, support and help in statistical analysis and preparation of this manuscript.

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to Dr. D. R. Mehta, Dr. M. H. Sapovadiya, Dr. S. B. Chaudhary, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, and other staff members of Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding. I wish my sincere thanks to all the staff members of Pulses Research Station, JAU, Junagadh for their kind help and cooperation during the period of experimental work in field.
One needs sincere friend’s at all major functions in life to bear strains and fatigue cheerfully. I have been luckier in this respect and could like to record my amiable sense of gratitude towards my intimate and friends Pranav, Narsee, Umesh, Vitthal, Markhi, Paresh, Mehul, Vikram, Sandeep, Pravin, Jignesh, Vijay and Parth for their valuable time and co-operation. I express my thanks to my seniors Mehul, Dharmesh, Chana and Sana.

I am really grateful to my classmates Sunil, Rohit, Hardik, Piyush, Mehul, Chirag, Bharat, Zeal, Subha, Bhoomi, Pooja, Pravina, Ridhi and Ruchi for their timely help and kind cooperation during the course of my study and field work.

Most humbly, I bow my head with reverence to my venerable grandparents. No words in this mortal can suffice to express my feelings, high appreciation and deepest sense of reverence towards my beloved parents Dalpatbhai and Vilashben for their bondless love constant encouragement, prayer, support and sacrifice, without which this dream could not have become a reality. They are there at every steps of the way; they hold my hand throughout the long journey and truly the wind beneath my wing. I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to my dearest brothers Prakash whose selfless love, filial affection, constant encouragement, obstinate sacrifices, sincere prayer, expectations have always been vital source of inspiration in my life.

Last but not the least I am soulfully thankful Bapasitaram, Hanuman, Lord Shiva and Lord Krishna, the almighty who made me to do this and made every job a success for me.

Now, as I carry this in my hand, I carry with me memories that will enrich my nostalgia.

………any omission in this small manuscript does not mean luck of gratitude.

There are number of well-wishers to whom I cannot forget and I thanks to one and all associated with me directly and indirectly.

Place: Junagadh

Date: 29/09/2017

(Ramanuj B D.)