

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**“The only source of Knowledge is Experience”**

**- Albert Einstein**

My postgraduate journey is nearing an end. As I sit today in retrospect, I picture myself naïve 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. V. J. Bhatiya**, Professor & Head, Department of Seed Science and Technology, & Nodal Officer (Mega Seed), College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. I have no words to express my heartfelt thanks to him for his illuminating guidance, constructive criticism, judicious supervision, amiable behaviour and keen interest throughout the course of this investigation and preparation of the manuscript.

This memorable occasion provides to me an unique privilege to offer sincere thanks to the member of my advisory committee, Dr. J. B. Patel, Associate Professor, Department of Seed Science and Technology, College of Agriculture, J.A.U., Junagadh. Dr. G. U. Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, J.A.U., Junagadh, Dr. D. V. Patel, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Statistics, J.A.U., 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 Dr. B. K. Sagarka, Principal & Dean, College of Agriculture, J.A.U., Junagadh and all the staff members of academic branch as well as central library for their ever willing co-operation and encouragement for providing necessary facilities during this study.

I am sincerely thankful to Dr. C. K. Mandavia, Professor and Head, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Dr. D. R. Mehta, Dr. M. B. Patel, Dr. R. B. Madaria, Dr. N. B. Patel, Prof. L. J. Raval, Dr. L. K. Sharma and all the staff members of Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding for providing guidance and necessary help during period of study and research activity.

I am also sincerely thankful to all the staff members of Sagadividi Farm, Department of Seed Science & Technology, College of Agriculture, J.A.U., Junagadh. for their constant help during my research work.

After showing gratitude to all my elders how can I forgot my friends!!!! My acquaintances of all times. I am indebted to all my friends who supported me and assisted me at every step of my work. I am grateful to all those helping soul Virani Maulik, Movaliya Hardik, Ram Jayesh, Vipul, Rakesh, Nikul, Jaydip, Piyush, Chirag, Sagar, Vimal and other classmates for their continuous and generous help rendered during my research work.

Diction is not enough to express my gratitude to my father **Shri Arvindbhai**, mother **Shrimati Rekhaben**, elder brother **Bhargav**, Sister **Hetalben**, **Rita** Brother in law **Mitulkumar** and brother **Nareshbhai**, **Piyushbhai**, **Bhavdeep** whose selfless love, filial affection, constant encouragement, obstinate sacrifices, sincere prayer, expectations and blessing have always been vital source of inspiration in my life. Words run short to express my indebtedness to my beloved parents. Most humbly, I bow my head with reverence to my venerable papa and mummy and lots of love to my dear Brother and Sister in law whose incessant love, kind blessings and inspiration made me to achieving this goal.

A millions thanks to “**Lord Shreekrishna**”, “**Lord Hanuman**”, “**Maa Verai**” and “**Maa Khodal**” the almighty and my great caretaker, had always been there with me for showing their blessings and compassion everlasting, whose grace is always to motivate and inspiring to me for every moment of my work and have brought boundless joy to my life.

No matter how trivial it might have been, I am grateful to all those helping souls for their kind cooperation and timely help

Place : Junagadh

Date : 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

(Mungala Rahul A.)