ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I feel a great pleasure in expressing my deep sense of gratitude and reverence towards my teacher and eminent research guide Prof. V.A. Sawant, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Words fail to express my feelings towards him for valuable guidance, many inspiring discussions, timely advice and criticism for completion work.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to foundry workers and owners of foundry unit at Shiroli MIDC in Kolhapur. The workers and manager were most helpful and without their cooperation the survey and research work would not been a success.

I am thankful to Prof. D. V. Muley, Registrar and Head, Department of Zoology and Prof. G. P. Bhavane for providing the necessary facilities to carry out this research work.

I must thanks to Shri. S. B. More, Field Officer, Pollution Control Board Regional Office, Pune and Dr. Atul Ahire, Dept. of Environment Science KIT, Kolhapur for their valuable suggestions and help.

I thank Mr. Pillai, Mr. Balasaheb Patil, Dr. Sanjay Sathe, Dr. R. S. Dubal, Dr. Vishwas Deshpande, Dr. M. P. Bhilave Mr. C. B. Jawale Mr. Pawan Teli, Mrs. Monica Sanandam, Mrs. Bharati Wali, Miss. Vaishali Nalawade,
Sayare Nadaf, S. Bhosale, S.B. Kamble and technical staff of the foundry for encouragement and their valuable help.

I wish to thank Dr. Sanjay Kamble, Principal, D. P. Bhosale College, Koregaon, Dist. Satara, Principal Dr. P. A. Gurav and Secretary Mr. J. G. Jadhav, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara. Who permitted me for doing this research work.

I am highly thankful to the university authorities, my teachers and non teaching staff members of Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

I am obliged to University Grant Commission, New Delhi (Western Zone, Pune) for award of Teacher Fellowship in XI Plan.

I will fail in my duties, if I do not recall my warm feeling towards my sister Vijaya Apate, brothers Sanjay, Mahesh and family members especially my wife Mrs. Shailaja, who shouldered all the responsibilities in my absence and my son Kaustubh and daughter Vaishanvi who tolerated my long absence throughout the tenure of this work.

I also thank Mr. Gangadhar Divekar for the skillful typing of this thesis.

Last but not the least I am thankful to all my well-wishers.

Place: Kolhapur

Date: December, 2010.  

(R. B. More)