

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is grateful to Dr. D.K. Chakrabarti, Assistant Professor of Zoology, Presidency College, Calcutta, for suggesting the problem and for his inspiring guidance and supervision of the work.

The writer records her sincere gratitude to Dr. A.K. Bhaduri of Vidyasagar College, Calcutta for his valuable opinion regarding some final determination.

Heartful thanks are due to Prof. S.K. Dasgupta, Head of the Department of Zoology, Presidency College, Calcutta, and to Dr. B. Dasgupta, Principal, Darjeeling Govt. College, for providing laboratory facilities.

The author is especially grateful to Mr. Dilip Dutta, Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Nagaland for assisting her in collection of soil samples in Mikir Hills and North Cachar Hills.

Cordial thanks are offered to the Project Officer, and staff of District Agricultural Office, Diphu, Karbi Anglong, Assam and Akbarpur Agricultural Farm, Cachar, Assam for providing valuable data.

Sutapa Mukherji and Sukla Mallick, Research Scholar, Department of Geography, Calcutta University, Mrs. Manju Mahapatra, Anjana Roy Talukdar and Sumana Mukherji, Department of Botany, Calcutta University and Mr. B.G. Kundu, Zoological

Survey of India, Calcutta are thanked for their manifold assistance.

Heartful thanks are also due to Prof. G.P. Channabasa-
vana, Department of Entomology, University of Agricultural
Sciences, Bangalore, Dr. B. Mallik and Mr. P.S. Jagadish,
Acadological Society of India, Bangalore, Miss Mariamma
Daniel, Research Scholar, Department of Zoology, Calicut
University, Kerala, for their help and encouragement in
this study.

Dr. S. Santra of the Department of Botany, Presidency
College is thanked for determining the plant species.

The writer is indebted to Mr. Prabodh Kumar Gantait,
Calcutta, for typing out the manuscript.

Finally the writer records her extreme gratefulness
to her parents, brothers and sisters for their constant
encouragement throughout the entire period of research.