

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Having unflinching faith on to “omnipotent creator” for his never ending blessing, it’s a great pleasure to express my profound gratitude to my respected parents, who digested much hardship inspiring for prosecuting my studies, thereby receiving proper education.

I feel proud to convey my earnest respect, sincere appreciation and enormous indebtedness to my supervisor Professor B.N. Chakraborty, Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory, Department of Botany, University of North Bengal, for his continuous direction, constructive criticism and valuable suggestions in carrying out the research work and preparation of this thesis. I express my gratitude and best regards to Professor Usha Chakraborty of the Department of Botany for her helpful commentary, supportive attitude and unvarying inspiration throughout the research work.

I am highly grateful to the Head of this department for all administrative support during the entire course of my research work and humble acknowledgements to all my honourable teachers of the Department of Botany, University of North Bengal for their valuable teachings, direct and indirect advice and encouragement and co-operation during the whole study period. I also wish to extend my thanks to all the non-teaching staffs of the Department.

I am also indebted to the Honourable Vice Chancellors, both past and present of the University of North Bengal for letting me to carry out my work in this University. My sincere thanks are also due to The Registrar, NBU for his positive response during my registration and submission of Ph.D. Thesis.

Without the financial support from the National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganism, my work would start and end in nothingness and hence I sincerely thank the NBAIM, for providing me resource to study. I also owe special thanks to SciGenom Labs Pvt. Ltd., Kerala, for fungal identification.

I would also like to express my warm personal gratitude to all my friends of the Immuno- Phytopathology Lab especially Dr. Pannalal Dey, Dr. Kiran Sunar, Dr. Arka Pratim Chakraborty, Dr. Utanka Dey, Dr. Sanjita Allay, Dr. Amrita

Acharya, Dr. Somnath Roy, Mr. Shibu Barman, Ms. Priyanka Bhattacharjee, Ms. Puja Sashankar and all research scholars of Plant Biochemistry Lab for all their ideas that we argued about and constant support and assistance in completion of this thesis. Also my sincere thanks to my friend Mr. Praveen Jirwan for his support and inspiration. I wish to thank fieldsman Sambhu Banik and Dolly Mahato for maintaining plants in good health.

I found no words to thank my parents Mr. Krishna Khati and Mrs. Benuka Subba (Khati), my sister Ms. Sabiya Khati and my brother Mr. Bikesh Khati for their unquantifiable love and continuous support, their sacrifice never ending affection, immense strength and untiring efforts for bringing her dreams to proper shape. They were constant source of inspiration and enthusiasm in the critical moment of her studies.

Sweata Khati .

*Immuno-Phytopathology Lab
Department of Botany
University of North Bengal
Date:*

Sweata Khati