

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I feel privileged to express my deepest sense of gratitude and everlasting indebtedness to my esteemed teacher, Prof. Dr. S.K. Chatterjee, Ph.D.(USA), Director of Cinchona & Other Medicinal Plants, West Bengal and Managing Director, West Bengal Pharmaceutical and Phytochemical Development Corporation Ltd. (formerly, Professor of Botany and Dean of Science Faculty, University of Burdwan) for arousing my interest in the area of the present work on such important medicinal plant as ipecac. It was my sheer fortune that I could have the opportunity of working with such a personality brimming over with dynamism and versatility. It is a vain attempt on my part to acknowledge his valuable guidance, steadfast and untiring supervision and constant encouragement and no words can fully express my feelings for his kind affection which never let me become out of tract at times of difficulties. I also acknowledge my gratefulness to Dr. G.S. Yonzone, Principal, Kalimpong Govt. College (formerly, Head and Assistant Professor of Botany, Darjeeling Govt. College, Darjeeling), for his kind help as the Co-investigator of the present work.

I am most obliged to Mr. P. Bharati, Plant Pathologist, Directorate of Cinchona and Other Medicinal Plants, West Bengal for cheering me with unflagging resolution and burning enthusiasm with which I could endure amidst hardships, exhaustion and some delicate moments of frustration embittered by impatience, indecision and confusions during the many-faceted course of this undertaking. I heartily admire his sublime sincerity as a friend who cultivated in me the pragmatic optimism towards my pursuits. I am grateful to him for his immense help in every aspect of my work, without which this endeavour would not have been materialised.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge my thanks and respects to Dr. (Mrs.) Bani Chatterjee. I have been fortunate to receive moral support and encouragement from her. I also thank her for her affection and creative suggestions.

My sincere thanks are due to Prof. A.K. Sharma, D.Sc., F.N.A., F.A.Sc., Centre of Advanced Study (Cell and Chromosome Research), University of Calcutta

for his precious help and suggestions. I am grateful to Dr. A. Chatterjee of Special Instrumentation Research Centre, Bose Institute, Calcutta and Mrs. Ila Biswas, Librarian, Bose Institute, Calcutta for being so kind to provide library facilities.

I wish to acknowledge my gratefulness to Dr. S.K.Neogi, Chief Chemist, Govt. Emetine Factory, Mungpoo and Dr. B. Lahiri, Analytical Chemist, Research Section, Mungpoo for their help and suggestions especially in chemical aspects of ipecac alkaloids and Mr.S.P. Maiti of West Bengal Pharmaceutical and Phytochemical Development Corporation Ltd. for analysing some root samples.

I will never forget the sincere help of Mrs. A. Subba who undertook the arduous task of preparing draft copy of the manuscript. My appreciations are also due to Mr. N. Roy of Calcutta University and M/s Das Studio, Darjeeling for their skill and artistry while preparing the graphs and photoplates, respectively and to M/s Micrographics Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta for putting all efforts to make the typing beautiful.

Financial assistance from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi and later from Hill Affairs Branch Secretariat, Darjeeling is gratefully acknowledged.

Finally, I keep on record my feeling of thankful appreciation to all of those who helped me during the course of this investigation or in other ways, particularly to the International Foundation of Science and the concerned scientists, Dr. R. P. Nandi and Mr. G. C. Subba.

October 12, 1988

Bidyawati Yonjan
(Bidyawati Yonjan)