ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the very outset, it is my duty to acknowledge humbly my sincere thankfulness to many people who helped greatly during the course of research work. It gives me the greatest pleasure to express my deep sense of gratitude to my esteemed supervisor, respected Dr. Sharad Shankar Joshi who accepted my humble request and agreed to be my guide. It was impossible task for me to carry out successfully research work without the help of my guide. He with his constant suggestions, instructions and friendly advice boosted my spirit. I manifest my sincere gratitude and indebtedness to him for his invaluable vigilant guidance.

I also must thank Prof. B.S.R. Rao and S.V. Bokhil, former Head Department of Economics, and Dr. (Mrs) Dhananjari Sathe, Head Department of Economics, University of Pune for their critical comments and suggestions. I am equally thankful to Prof. Vigneshwar Varmudy, Department of Economics, Vivekananda College Puttur for his un-easing encouragement and valuable suggestions. He was really a source of knowledge and inspiration to me. My quite few discussions with him about the topic provided me appropriate direction and outlook.

Special thanks are due to the staff of the libraries of the following institutions and ministers for making the available required books and Journals from time to time.

(a). Jayakar library, University of Pune.
(b). Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.
(c). Mangalagangotri, University of Mangalore.
(d). Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod – Kerala.
(e). CPCRI, Vittal – Karnataka.

I am very thankful to Dr. P.K.S. Bhat, president of All India Areca Growers Association, staff of Co-operative Societies for providing me the required guidelines and materials. I am deeply indebted to Mr. Ishwara Prasanna, for his care, resilience in collecting the datas over the cost and marketing concepts.

My deepest appreciation is also expressed to the members of the Madangal family and other relatives for their warm and continuous support and for making my stay in
Pune. I owe a great deal to the support of all my friends; they stood by me from first day at the University to the finishing of this work.

I would always remain grateful to my beloved parents for their blessings and inspiration and Mrs. Vani deserves a word of appreciation for help in keeping the family atmosphere pleasant during study period.

Many have contributed to the completion of this Research. I sincerely thank all those who have helped me but whose names I am unable to mention. However, any error and omission in facts is solely my own responsibility.