

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I would like to thank **Prof. Dr. K.-H. Zessin** for accepting me as his student, for the high standard of his guidance and for critical correction of the manuscript. I wish to thank sincerely **Dr. P.-H. Clausen** for initiating my Ph.D project and for his untiring support, guidance and for correction of the thesis. I admire his dedication and level of organisation. **Dr. M. Kyule** is highly appreciated for assisting me in data management and analysis, and reviewing the thesis. I am also grateful to **Prof. Dr. E. Schein** and his staff for the cooperation I received during my research work at the Institute for Parasitology and International Animal Health, Free University of Berlin. Special thanks go to **Mrs. A. Wiemann** and **Mrs. T. Bartmann** for the technical assistance they offered me. I am also thankful to **Prof. Dr. G. von Samson-Himmelstjerna** and **Dr. B. Etschmann** for their invaluable comments on the molecular aspect of this study. I thank **Ms. Delia Grace** for commenting on the manuscript, **Dr. N. Wirtherle** for helping in translating the summary into German and **Mrs. G. Schröter** for taking care of my experimental animals.

I would like to thank the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Veterinary Services Department for granting me study leave and for continued support during this leave.

I owe thanks to friends **Dr. Daniel Woldesenbet**, **Dr. Wondwossen Tsegaye** and **Mrs. Serkalem Bekele** for keeping my family company while I was far, and for their unfailing friendship. When I think of my stay in Berlin, I will never forget the friendship and love my family and I received from my Ethiopian friends in Germany: **Dawit Mekonnen**, **Tigist Alemayehu** and their son **Meba Dawit**; your long-standing friendship and company made us feel at home and are especially unforgettable. Thank you for everything.

I would like to thank my wife **Konjit** and son **Kidus**; My wife for taking so much responsibility for our son and the house keeping and Kidus, who was always keen to do what I was doing on the computer and enjoyed pressing the keys. Although he may not have known what it was all about, he gave me a reason to go on, even during difficult times. Great thanks go to my father **Afework Mebratu**, my mother **Worke Abebe**, and my sisters and brothers for their love and prayers.

This Ph.D study was undertaken with financial support from the **Katholischer Akademischer Ausländer-Dienst (KAAD)**, Bonn. I am extremely grateful to KAAD for granting me the scholarship to carry out this study.