

# Gladiolus

## Propagation

For multiplying the planting stock it is advisable and cheaper to use cormels. They are produced in clusters on stolons between mother and daughter corms. Cormels are selected carefully to prevent spreading of disease. Hot water treatment or water soaking for four to seven days facilitates early and uniform sprouting.

Swelling of root at the base indicates that cormels are ready for planting. Most cormels are planted at a depth of 5 cm and in rows 10 to 13 cm wide furrows, spaced 60-75 cm apart. About 130 large cormels are planted per metre of row. The soil is initially kept moist to facilitate uniform germination. Sprouting takes place within one to three weeks time from the date of planting, depending upon the size of the corms. Flowering size corms are obtained within 1-3 years after planting the cormels.