

# Marigold

## Intercultural Operations

### **Weed Control**

In order to get profuse flowering; it is necessary to keep the field free from weeds. Generally 4-6 weeding are necessary throughout the growth period.

### **Pinching**

Removal of apical buds is known as pinching. In case of tall cultivars of African marigold, the plant first grows to its full height and later produces axillary branches. If apical buds are removed at an early stage of formation, a large number of lateral shoots arise resulting in well shaped bushy plant bearing more number of uniform flowers. Sometimes there is an early formation of flower buds due to late transplanting. In such cases flower buds are disbudded initially for allowing the plants to complete vegetative growth. In both African and French marigolds, pinching is recommended after 40 days of transplanting.

### **Staking**

It means providing support to the tall plants. The African type marigold plants grow tall and needs to be staked with the help of bamboo sticks. Otherwise, lodging and bent stem may affect proper display of the plant.