

# Gladiolus

## Intercultural Operations

### **Weeding and Hoeing :**

The field is kept clean by regular weeding and hoeing. When the area is small, weeding and hoeing is done manually. First weeding is completed within three weeks after sowing while the second weeding is done before application of fertilizer as top dressing.

### **Earthing Up :**

Earthing up is practiced when the soil is heavy and deep planting is not possible. It is done when the plants are 20-30 cm in height.

The tall plants are staked. Staking is done after the emergence of spikes but before opening of florets. Plants are loosely fastened at three places with the help of jute cord.

### **Mulching :**

Mulching with dry grass helps to conserve the moisture and suppress the weed growth. However, this practice should be discouraged in fields infested with termites.