

Study on evaluation of Gladiolus varieties for Cut Flower production under tropical conditions of Tirupati

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ABSTRACT

A field study was conducted at the Citrus Research Station, Tirupati, for two winter seasons 2015- 17 to evaluate 12 germplasm of gladiolus for cut-flower and corm production. The various characters studied showed significant differences amongst the cultivars with the minimum number of days required to slipping (59.20 DAP) in A. Aarathi, the maximum spike length (96.47 cm) in A.Tilak and the highest number of florets per spike (18.47), cormels per plant (120.80), weight of cormels (21.29 g) per plant and vase life (9.88 days) in A.Amar. The maximum number of spikes (2.63) and corms (3.20) per plant was recorded in American Beauty. The maximum diameter of corm (4.74 cm), weight of corm (77.67 g) and size index of corm (19.84 cm) was superior in A.Kesar, while the highest number of florets remaining open at a time (5.33) was observed in A.Sanjeevini. On the basis of spike and corm yield and returns performance A.Aarathi was found to be the best under tropical conditions of Tirupati..

Key words : *Corm, cut-flower, gladiolus, vase-life*