

Influence of Iron nutrition on Growth, Quality of Flowers and Corm Yield of Gladiolus variety “Trader-horn”

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ABSTRACT

Field investigations were carried out to explore the possibilities of improving the growth, qualitative characters of flower and corm yield of gladiolus variety “Trader-horn” through foliar sprays of iron. The experiment was conducted in 3 consecutive years during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 on an alfisol at Agricultural Research Institute, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. The results showed that the foliar spray of FeSO_4 @ 0.6% concentration at 3-4 leaf stage of crop growth increased the length and weight of spikes. Wilting of 5 flowers/spike occurred significantly later in response to foliar feeding even with low concentration of 0.4%. The corm size did not improve by the application of this nutrient. but, the corm yield increased significantly by spraying FeSO_4 @ 0.6% in all the three years.

Key words :Cormyield, FeSO_4 , Flower quality, Foliar Spray, Gladiolus and Growth.