

## Tips for Success

**Water:** Water your plants immediately after planting. Gladiolus like ample water during the active summer growing months.

**Spots on Foliage:** The most troublesome pests are gladiolus thrips. This insect does considerable damage to the flowers. It causes malformed and spotted flowers. Aphids, grasshoppers and cucumber beetles are other insect pests that may cause damage to flowers or foliage. Gladiolus corm and stem rots are active during storage and develop with proper curing and storage. Before planting in spring, inspect and discard all infected corms.

**Cut Flowers:** For a cut flowers garden, cut the flower spikes when only 1 to 2 flowers are open. Always leave at least 5 inches on the plant so the bulb can regenerate the next year satisfactorily. Cut spikes cleanly at a slight angle and place in water. They will utilize a lot of water in the vase so keep an eye on them.

**Hardy Gladiolus:** These show stopping plants produce richly colored flowers in about 60-90 days from the time of planting. If you notice your plants are flopping over, that means you didn't plant the bulbs deep enough. Let them remain until autumn. At that point cut the foliage off completely and replant the bulbs deeper.



# Roberta's Gardens

## PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



**Hardy Gladiolus**  
*Gladiolus nanus*

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-765-525-4065** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: [customerservice@robertasinc.com](mailto:customerservice@robertasinc.com).

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at [RobertasUniqueGardens.com](http://RobertasUniqueGardens.com).

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

*Perennials*



**Roberta's Unique Gardens**

P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182

Monday – Friday 8:30<sup>AM</sup> – 4:30<sup>PM</sup> EST

**RobertasUniqueGardens.com**

 @robertasgardens  Roberta's Unique Gardens

## Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Perennial

 **Light/Sun:** Full to Partial Sun

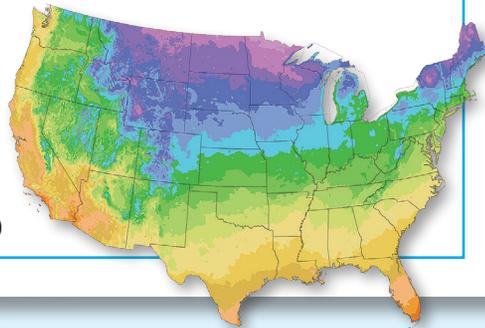
 **Mature Height:** 12-18"

 **Mature Spread:** 6-8"

 **Bloom Time:** Late Summer

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 5 to 10

9a to 11  7a  6a  5a   
8a to 8b  6b  5bs to 5bn  3a to 4b   
7b 



## Plant Caretaking

**Upon Arrival:** Keep bulb(s) inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 4 weeks.

**Planting Depth & Spacing:** Dig a hole that is about 6-8 inches deep and place bulb in the hole with the pointy end facing upwards. Backfill the hole with soil or potting mix. In the garden space about 4-6" apart.

**Potted Plants:** Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. Plant 4 to 6 bulbs in a 10 to 12" container or plant more bulbs together in a larger pot. In containers space about 3-4 inches apart.

**Soil Preparation:** If your soil is clayish, amend it with standard potting mix to improve drainage. For container plants, any bagged potting mix is fine.

**Watering:** To determine if your plant needs water, put your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry, it is time to water. It is important to make sure young plants do not experience long periods of dryness. However, they also do not like soggy conditions. Gladiolus plants need ample water throughout the growing season. Watering should soak the ground thoroughly. Avoid watering during the heat of the day.

**Fertilizer:** Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting and then once or twice a month all summer long.

**Pet Considerations:** Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

**Winterizing:** After plants have finished blooming, allow foliage to remain on the plants for at least 8 weeks. In autumn or early spring, you may cut withered foliage back to just above the surface of the soil.

## Planting Steps

**Step 1** Keep bulb(s) inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 4 weeks.

**Step 2** Plant bulbs in the garden once the threat of frost has past spacing them 4 to 6 inches apart. Cover the top of bulbs with 6-8 inches of soil. Full sun is best. Otherwise plant bulbs into 6 inch pots separately or combine into larger pots. Water the plants thoroughly.

**Step 3** In the garden, the bulbs will sprout when the soil temperature rises usually around May. In pots, place plants outside as long as evening temperatures stay above 40F.

**Step 4** Planted now each bulb will produce flowers in about 2-3 months.

