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*Gladiolus communis*

**EASTERN GLADIOLUS** is a bulbous perennial. Native to southern Europe (especially to Turkey and to North Africa) it has white- or red-streaked or blotched, pinkish-purple flowers.

It is also known as Common gladiolus, Cornflag, *Êtchelles dé Jâcob* (Channel Islander-Jersey Norman-French), *Etelänmiekkalilja* (Finnish), *Gartengladiole* (German), *Gladiole* (German), *Siegwurz* (German), *Småblommig sabellilja* (Swedish), Whistling jacks, and Xiphion.

*Communis* means ‘common, general or growing with’.

This species is cultivated as an ornamental plant.

The earliest recording of eastern gladiolus in Britain is believed to be 1596.