a. Characteristics:
i. Loose and coarse tilth to allow stem insertion.
ii. Well-drained soil to prevent rotting.
iii. Fertile, moist soil for rooting.
b. Difference from seedbed:
i. Seedbed requires fine tilth and shallow preparation.
ii. Cuttings need coarser, deeper soil with spacing for vegetative growth.

Sub-strand 2.2: Selected Crop Management Practices

Instructions: Answer all questions, providing detailed explanations where necessary.

Section A: Multiple Choice Questions (Choose the best answer)

Question Number	Question	Answer	Explanation
1	Which management practice involves removing excess or weak seedlings to provide space for healthier ones?	C) Thinning	**Thinning** is the process of deliberately removing excess seedlings from a row or group to reduce plant density. This gives the remaining plants adequate space, nutrients, water, and sunlight to grow strong and healthy, leading to a better harvest.
2	Gapping is a management practice done to:	B) Fill in gaps where seeds failed to germinate.	**Gapping** is the practice of planting new seeds or seedlings in empty spaces within a field where the initial seeds did not sprout. This ensures a uniform plant stand and maximizes the use of the field area.
3	The primary purpose of weeding in crop production is to:	B) Remove competition for water, nutrients, and sunlight.	**Weeds** are unwanted plants that compete with crops for essential resources. By removing them, you ensure that the crops get all the water, nutrients, and sunlight they need for optimal growth, which is the main goal of weeding.
4	Earthing-up is a practice commonly done to crops like potatoes and maize to:	B) Promote root development and provide support.	**Earthing-up**, or hilling, involves piling soil around the base of a plant. For potatoes, this encourages the formation of new tubers. For maize, it provides stability and support, preventing the tall stalks from lodging (falling