

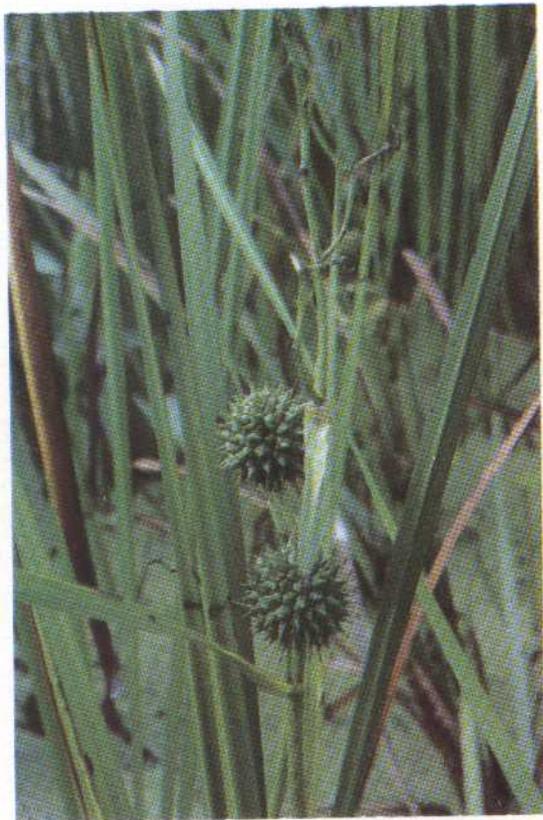
BRANCHING BUR-REED
Sparganium androcladum

Located in bogs, swamps and shallow water and on muddy or peaty shores throughout the Division. There are about ten similar species in North America, all of which are wetland species,

An erect, branching, stout, perennial, with fibrous roots and creeping horizontal rootstalks; to 1.2 m high, leaves ascending, stiffish, long and narrow (to 1 m long, 4 to 15 mm wide), keeled; base triangular. Bracts at the base of the flowers similar to the leaves. Flowering stalk branched, the main stem with 1 to 4 stalkless female flowering heads below and 4 to 10 male heads above; branches thinner stemmed, zig-zag, with 3 to 8 male flowers and rarely 1 female flower; blooming from June to August. Fruiting heads 2.5 to 3.5 cm diameter, composed of many green to brown, beaked nutlets.

Burreed nutlets are eaten by waterfowl, especially mallards and whistling swans, and marsh and shorebirds. The stems and foliage are preferred food of deer and muskrat. Submerged and emergent species provide cover for fish.





Notes