

NARROW-LEAVED CATTAIL

Typha angustifolia

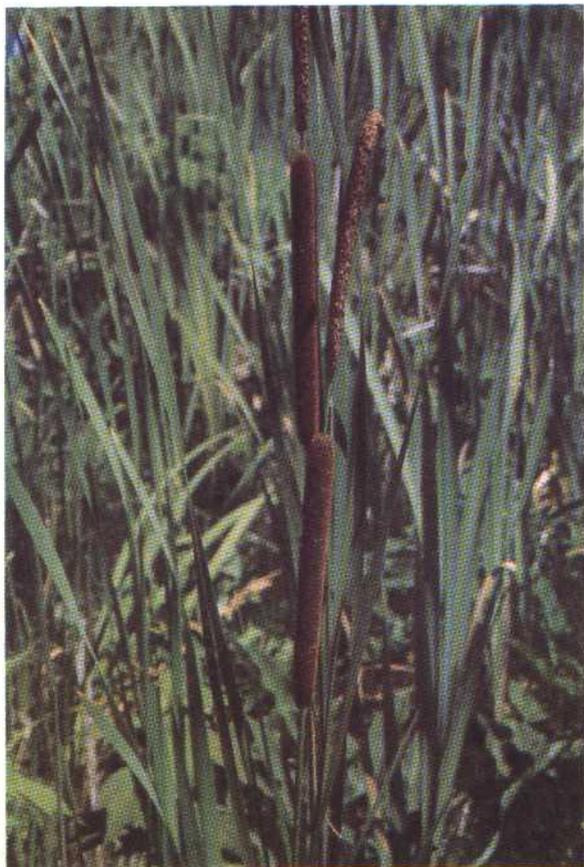
Located in fresh and brackish marshes throughout the Division and especially along the seaboard. Also known as Lesser Reed-Mace.

This cattail is similar to *T. latifolia* (p. 20.00) except leaves and head are narrower. Stem 0.75 to 1.5 m high; less than ten leaves on a stem, each 0.3 to 0.8 cm wide. Male flower head (top of spike) separated from female flower (bottom of spike) by a gap (compare with *T. latifolia*, p. 20.00).

Flowers reddish-brown, blooming from May through July. Both flowers about the same diameter. Fruit 0.6 to 1.5 cm diameter and 3 to 15 cm long; present in August and September.

Fair food for geese and occasionally ducks; stalks and roots excellent muskrat food and may serve as materials for shelter; attracts marsh birds, waterfowl and song birds; redwing blackbirds often nest in stands; may serve as spawning grounds for sunfish and shelter for small fish; utilized by insects which may be important in the food web.





Notes