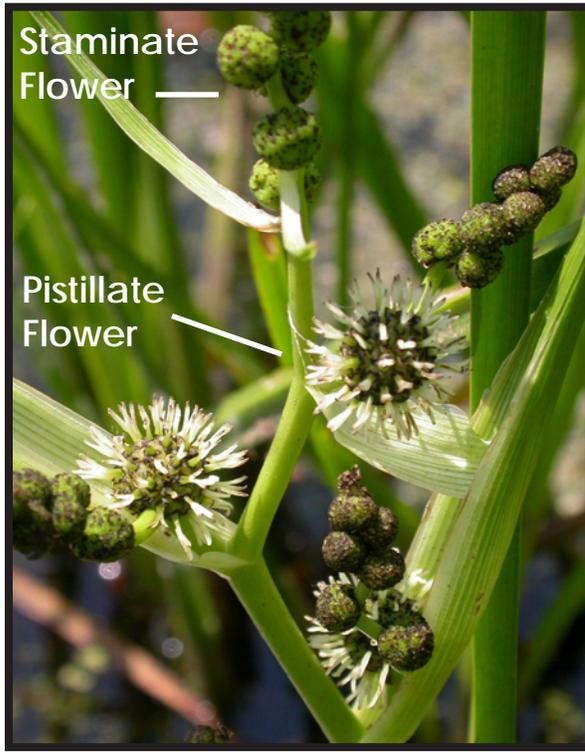


# Giant bur-reed

*Sparganium eurycarpum*

Minnesota C-Value: 5  
Wetland Indicator Status: OBL  
Native



**Leaves:** Leaves erect, bright green, 6-12 mm wide, about 1 m tall, strong keel creating a flattened triangular cross-section of leaf.

**Stems:** Leaf stems stout, branched.

**Flowers and fruit:** Bur-like appearance for lower pistillate (female) heads that are 2-2.5 cm wide, flowers with 2 stigmas. Upper flowers are staminate (male) and smaller. Flower stalk zig-zags. Flowers May to August.

**Plant communities:** Marsh, sedge meadow, lake edge, streams, shorelines.

**Comments:** Perennial often growing with cattails or river bulrush. Prior to flowering the bright green and triangular cross-section leaf distinguishes this plant from the duller, flatter cattail leaves. 8 species of *Sparganium* occur in Minnesota. *S. eurycarpum* is the most common. Other species are shorter than 1 m, and flowers only have 1 stigma.

