

# Broadleaf Cattail

## *Typha latifolia*



Photos: A. Martel © 2008



<b>CA Native:</b>	Yes; Also N. America (Alaska to Newfoundland, south to Mexico), Central America, Great Britain, Eurasia, Africa, New Zealand, Australia and Japan
<b>Plant Community:</b>	Wetland/riparian, marshes, ponds, lakes, backwaters, seaside estuaries; Mostly found in freshwater, but also in brackish marshes below 5,000'
<b>Form:</b>	Perennial
<b>Size:</b>	5' high; Spreads by rhizomes
<b>Light:</b>	Full sun
<b>Temperature:</b>	Will survive down to -36° F
<b>Water:</b>	Regular; Not tolerant to drought
<b>WUCOLS:</b>	1-6 (N/A)
<b>Soil:</b>	Adaptable; Grows in areas with high organic matter; Tolerates lead, zinc, nickel and copper
<b>Flowers/Berries:</b>	Brown flowers late spring to early summer
<b>Deer resistance:</b>	Yes
<b>Fire resistance:</b>	Yes
<b>Wildlife value:</b>	Provides food and cover for many species of wildlife and nesting sites for birds, such as, Red-winged Blackbirds, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, and Marsh Wrens
<b>Uses/Comments:</b>	Often found in shallower water than Narrow Leaf Cattail ( <i>Typha angustifolia</i> ), upslope of bulrushes, but below willows; Only species of cattail typically found in undisturbed environments; Potential as a crop for renewable energy; Useful in waste water treatment – filters runoff; Fast grower; Can be invasive – plant in large areas