

PLANT LOOK-ALIKES

Yellow Flag Iris & Cattail (Bullrush)

SHOOTS



No purple at the base of shoots

LEAVES



Cattail leaves do not fan out from the base

CROSS SECTION



Leaves are D-shaped: Flat on one side and rounded on the other

STEM



Stems are round and have a honeycomb-like structure

FLOWER



Flowers are thick, brown, and cigar-shaped spikes

Typha spp.

CATTAIL (BULLRUSH)

NATIVE PLANT

- Can grow to 3 m tall

Iris pseudacorus

YELLOW FLAG IRIS

INVASIVE PLANT
TOXIC

- Can grow 1.5 m tall
- Flowers in early June
- Sap can cause skin irritations, do not consume this plant

Shoots have purple coloring at the base



Iris leaves form a fan-shape at the base of the plant



Leaves are flat and have a ridge down the middle



Stems are almond-shaped, often with a purple hue



Flowers are yellow, with three upright and three drooping sepals/petals



REFERENCES

- [Metro Vancouver Best Management Practices - Yellow Flag Iris](#)
- [Ontario Invasive Plant Council - Yellow Iris \(*Iris pseudacorus*\)](#)
- [Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society - Yellow Flag Iris vs Cattail](#)
- [Northwest Oregon Wetland Plants Project - *Iris pseudacorus*](#)