Cattails
(Two species) Common name: Cattails

By Martin Zimmerman, Sherman County Extension Agent, Oregon State University

Typha latifolia
Perennial
Spreads by large, creeping rootstocks
Leaves parallel-veined

Typha angustifolia
Similar to T. latifolia, but differs by separation of pistillate and staminate portions of head

Cattails are a problem in farm ponds, streams, and irrigation ditches. Perennial marsh herbs, they are erect, unjointed, with stout stems.

Control: Use amitrole T. Spray with 6 pounds of 50% material or 4 pounds liquid amitrole T per acre with a wetting agent when heads are fully mature; or use 10 pounds dalapon per acre with a wetting agent. Spray when heads begin to appear.

Fair control may be attained using 6 pounds of 2,4-D plus 3 gallons of diesel oil in 100 gallons of water. Repeat sprays will be needed for eradication. Spray before heads appear.

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