

Sweet Flag

Acorus americanus

Minnesota C-Value: 7
Wetland Indicator Status: OBL
Native



Leaves: 50-150 cm long by 1-2 cm wide long linear leaves. Margins smooth. Distinct ridge along back of the leaf. Sweet scent when crushed.

Stems: Plant is 2-6 ft. tall. Erect leaves sprout from a stout rhizome at the base of the plant.

Flowers and fruit: 5-10 cm long and 1-2 cm wide, cylindric, yellow-green spadix that protrudes from a leaf-like tapered stalk. Individual flowers have 6 papery tepals and 6 stamens. Fruit is a 1-3 seeded berry with a dry outside and jellylike inside.

Plant communities: Found in wetlands often amongst cattails and along stream banks. Prefers rich organic soils.

Comments: Sweet flag is similar in appearance to iris but can be distinguished by its spicy-sweet scent and cone-shaped spadix.