

WEED OF THE WEEK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY KAUA'I COMMUNITY RADIO & KAUA'I INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

WEEK SIX, JULY 30, 2008

CATTAIL

Typha latifolia



Description: Rush with long, thick leaves & brown, cigar-shaped flower head

Native Range: Eurasia, Africa, & North America

Known Distribution: Small populations in Wailua, Maha'ulepu, Niimalu, Kealia, Nukoli'i, Puhi, Waimea Valley, Koloa, & Hanapepe (not known on Moloka'i or Big Island)

INVASIVE INFO

- Just one of the cigar-shaped flower heads can produce **250,000 seeds!**
- These seeds are dispersed by the **wind** & are viable for **100 years!**
- Cattails can also **spread** vegetatively by underground runners
- Takes over **wetlands**, evicting native plants & **endangered** birds from their home habitat
- Also invades **lo'i**, challenging our local kalo (taro) agriculture

MALAMA KAUA'I'S WETLANDS.

If you see Cattails on Kaua'i,
CALL 643-PEST!