

TYPHACEAE

by

A. L. STOFFERS

(Botanisch Laboratorium, Nijmegen)

Monoecious, marsh or aquatic plants, with perennial, creeping rootstocks and erect, terete stems. Leaves alternate, linear or strap-shaped, sheathing at the base, flat, slightly convex on the back. Flowers unisexual, densely crowded in simple, compact, cylindric spikes. Male inflorescence terminal and separated from the female spike or contiguous to it; each spike subtended by spathaceous, usually fugacious, bracts and divided at intervals by smaller caducous bracts. Perianth consisting of bristles. Male flowers with 3, rarely 1—7 stamens; the filaments free or connate; the anthers linear or oblong, basifixed, 2-celled, with longitudinal dehiscence; the connective produced beyond the cells in a conical, carnosely acuminate; pollen grains simple or compound. Female flowers with a one-celled, superior, stipitate and fusiform ovary; the ovule solitary and anatropous; the style elongate, slender, erect; the stigma ligulate, spathulate, lanceolate or linear. Among the female flowers many sterile ones with clavate tips. Fruit minute, stipitate, fusiform or ellipsoid, with a membranaceous or coriaceous pericarp, splitting longitudinally. Seed subcylindric or narrowly ellipsoid; the testa membranaceous; albumen farinaceous. Embryo cylindric, straight.

About 8 species in one genus, widely distributed in temperate and tropical regions.

Typha Linnaeus, Spec. Plant. 971. 1753

Characters of the family.

Typha angustifolia L.

LINNAEUS, Spec. Plant. 971. 1753; WILSON in N. Am. Fl. 17: 3. 1909; BRITTON & MILLSPAUGH, Bahama Fl. 4. 1920; BRITTON & WILSON, Sci. Surv. Porto Rico & Virgin Isl. 5: 9. 1923; ARNOLDO, Zakflora 90, fig. 116. 1954; — *Typha domingensis* PERSOON, Syn. Plant. 2: 532. 1807; BOLDINGH, Fl. Ned. W. Ind. Eil. 110. 1913; Fl. D. W. Ind. Isl. 2: 1. 1914; URBAN, Symb. Ant. 8: 5. 1920; — *Typha angustifolia* LINNAEUS var. *domingensis* PERSOON ex GRISEBACH, Fl. Br. W. Ind. Isl. 512. 1864.

Stems slender, 1—3 m tall. Leaves narrowly linear, 5—20 mm wide, up to 2 m long. Inflorescence brown, the staminate and the pistillate portions usually separated, each 10—40 cm long and 10—20 mm wide; the male portion deciduous after flowering. Male flowers with 3 stamens; the filaments connate at the base; the anthers linear, about 2—3 mm long; pollen grains simple.

Bracts in the male inflorescence dilatate to the apex, forked and branches curved, or rarely simple and subspathulate. Female flowers bracteolate; the bracteoles rhomboid-, obovate-, or elliptic-spathulate, about as long as the hairs; hairs simple, with or without club-shaped tips. Stigmas linear or linear-oblong. Fruit not furrowed.

Cosmopolitan.

In marshes.

CURAÇAO: Groot Santa Marta (Arnoldo 1856, fl. Jan.).