

Softstem Bulrush



Scientific name	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i> [<i>Scirpus validus</i>]
Common names	Softstem bulrush, great bulrush
Growth form	Rhizomatous emergent sedge.
Reproduction	Produces new shoots along rhizomes; also reproduces by seed.
Perennation	Herbaceous perennial; overwinters as dormant rhizomes/root crowns.
Range	Throughout the U.S.
Use	Valuable for fish and waterfowl habitat and erosion control.

Culture

Plant	Divided rhizomes from spring to midsummer.
Produce	Mature transplants.
Light	100% sunlight.
Container	6" (1 gallon) nursery pots.
Substrate	Most soil types.
Fertilization	20 grams 10-5-5 fertilizer per L of potting medium.
Water depth	Saturated to 25 cm.
Comments	Field-ready transplants can be produced in 6 to 8 weeks.

Field Planting

Propagule	Mature potted transplants.
Season	Early spring to midsummer.
Substrate	Sand to muck.
Depth	Moist soil to 75 cm.
Comments	Highly tolerant of desiccation; susceptible to herbivory by nutria and beavers; will tolerate depths of 1.6 m once established.