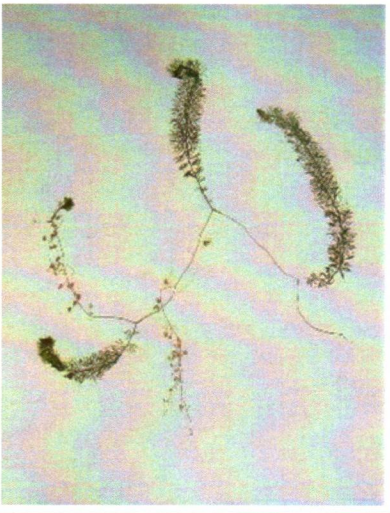


Is it a bladderwort?

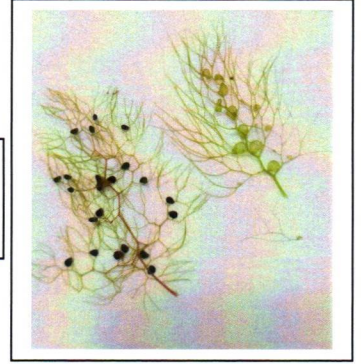
Does it have bladders?
Is it free-floating, not rooted?

Bladders and leaves
on separate branches
of stem

Northern bladderwort

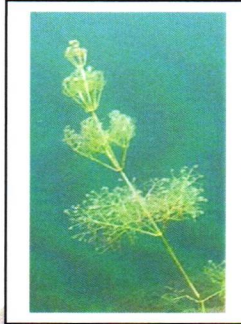


Bladders
are on leaves'
branching segments

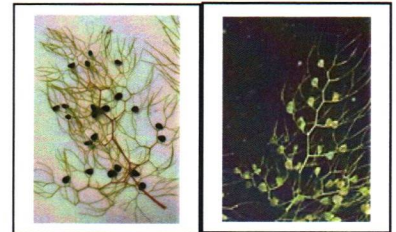


Branched leaves
arranged in whorls
along main stem

Large purple bladderwort



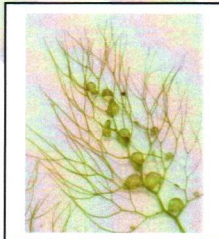
Leaves
not arranged
in whorls
along main stem



This **DRAFT** chart
is for identifying 5 species
of bladderworts (BW)
when no flowers are present;
it includes the
4 most common and larger
native BW species in ME,
plus invasive swollen BW.

Bladders
generally
arranged in
rows along
middle part
of individual
leaves

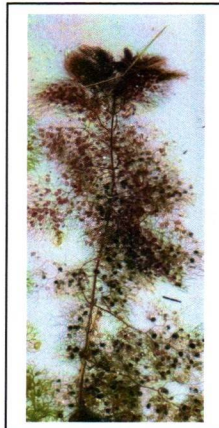
Common
bladderwort



Bladders generally
scattered on leaves'
branching
segments

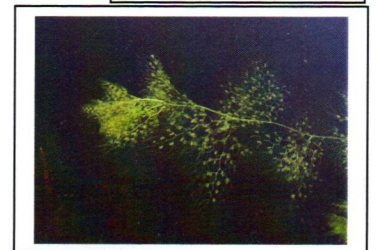
Plant is robust;
can be highly,
densely branched

Suspect
Swollen
bladderwort



Plant is
delicate

Floating
bladderwort



If you suspect that your
bladderwort sample is
invasive

Swollen Bladderwort,
submit pictures and
a fresh sample to
Lake Stewards of Maine
(LSM, in ME) or to
Amy Smagula/NH DES
(in NH).

This page is for identifying 5 species of bladderworts (BW) when no flowers are present; it includes 4 most common, and larger of native BW species in ME, plus invasive swollen BW.

Is it a bladderwort? Is it Swollen Bladderwort?

1. To determine if the sample is actually a bladderwort -
Does the plant specimen have bladders? Is it free-floating, not rooted?
(Have simple, clear image(s) here)
2. Are there separate branches with just bladders and other branches with just leaves?
(Have simple, clear image here)
If yes, it is native **Northern Bladderwort** (*Utricularia intermedia*)
If no, go to 3.
3. Do bladders occur on the leaves' branching segments?
(Have ~2-3 simple, clear image(s) here)
If yes, go to 4.
4. Are branched leaves arranged in whorls along the main stem?
(Have simple, clear image here)
If yes, it is native **Large Purple Bladderwort** (*Utricularia purpurea*)
If no, go to 5.
5. Are bladders generally arranged in rows along middle part of individual leaves?
(Have simple, clear image here)
If yes, it is native **Common Bladderwort** (*Utricularia vulgaris*)
If no, go to 6.
6. Are bladders generally scattered on leaves' branching segments?
(Have 3 simple, clear image(s) here)
If yes, go to 7.
7. Is the plant delicate?
(Have simple, clear image here)
If yes, it is probably native **Floating Bladderwort** (*Utricularia radiata*)
If no, go to 8.
8. Is the plant robust, and highly/densely branched?
(Have simple, clear image here)
If yes, it can be strongly suspected to be invasive **Swollen Bladderwort** (*Utricularia inflata*)
9. If you suspect that your bladderwort sample is invasive **Swollen Bladderwort**, submit pictures and a live sample to Lake Stewards of Maine, aka LSM (in ME) or to Amy Smagula/NH DES (in NH).