

ACORACEAE – SWEET FLAG FAMILY

Plant: perennial herbs (annual or mostly perennial) – mostly swampy ground and aquatic

Stem: leaves form a sheath for the stem

Root: rhizomes, sometimes oily

Leaves: simple, basal, smooth, lance or sword shaped, veins parallel, may have a sweet scented oil

Flowers: perfect; flowers on a dense spadix (but no spathe present), 6 tepals, 6 stamens

Fruit: a berry with seeds

Other: Monocotyledons Group

Genera: 1 genera, 6 (?) species worldwide

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Sweet Flag [Calamus]; *Acorus calamus* L. (Introduced)

Sweet Flag [Calamus]

Acorus calamus L. (Introduced)

Acoraceae (Sweet Flag Family)

Close Memorial Park, Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Notes: 6-petaled flower, yellow to yellowish brown, very small,
flowers dense on a thickened spike which is sessile on a leaf
like stem; leaves basal, linear, veins parallel, 1-3 cm wide and
1-2 m long; rhizomes stout; muddy shores and other aquatic
habitats; late spring to summer

[V Max Brown, 2012]

