

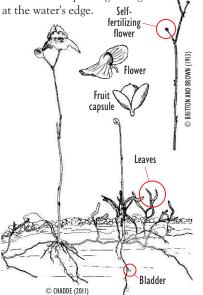
SIZE: Flower stalks can vary from 3-20 cm in size but are typically only 3 to 5 cm tall.

LEAVES: Very small and inconspicuous, forming a tiny turf of thin weak leaves up to 1 cm long near the base of the flower stalk in the substrate.

STEM: Flower stalk small and slender and mostly leafless. The upper section is somewhat zigzagged when bearing several flowers. The underground root-like branches bear small bladder-like insect traps which are difficult to observe.

FLOWERS: Small, yellow and twolipped (lower lip 4-7 mm long). One to ten flowers can be found alternately arranged along each stem on 0.5-1.5 cm long stalks. However, it is most common for plants to bear only tiny whitish self-fertilizing flowers which do not open.

FRUITS: Round capsules. **NOTES:** This species is inconspicuous and difficult to detect when not in flower. It is a lakeshore species growing at the water's edge. Self-





Zigzag Bladderwort

Utricularia subulata



© MEGAN CROWLEY Opened fruit capsules

Yellow two-lipped flower

Habitat:

Wet peaty or sandy lakeshores Interesting point: Before the carnivorous nature of the bladders was discovered, it was thought that the bladders were used for flotation purposes.



© MEGAN CROWLEY Horned Bladderwort



Small and slender

Similar species:

Horned Bladderwort (Utricularia cornuta) also has yellow flowers and grows along the lakeshore. The flower stalks in this species are up to 25 cm high, do not bear whitish self-fertilizing flowers and can form dense patches of yellow flowers.