

Impatiens capensis

Native to Maine

Spotted Touch-me-not
Orange Jewelweed

Upland
Forests, Fields, Waters edge, Developed Areas

Leaves



homeredwardprice, flickr.com



Look for toothed, oval leaves that are about 5 cm long and alternate on the stem. The leaves are not glossy and will bead up water, thus its common name of 'jewelweed'.

LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF TYPE	LEAF/LEAFLET SHAPE	LEAF/LEAFLET EDGE
 ALTERNATE	 SIMPLE	 PALMATE	 SMOOTH
 OPPOSITE	 COMPOUND-PALMATE	 OVAL	 TOOTHED
 WHORLED	 COMPOUND-PINNATE	 ROUND	 WAVY

Plant



jhhymas, flickr.com



Look for an annual plant that grows to 1.5 m tall and is found in moist shady areas.

Stem



nc hiker, flickr.com



Look for stems that are pale green to reddish-green and translucent (see-through), fleshy, with swollen nodes. The stems are rather fragile and break easily.

Seasonal Change



Stephen Durrenberger, flickr.com



In July, August, and September look for orange flowers ~3cm long with a three-lobed corolla (petals) and a hooked cone spur at the back of the flower.

Similar Species

Orange jewelweed is similar to Himalayan Balsam, another *Impatiens* species with pink flowers that is invasive. Himalayan Balsam is much taller and has a whorled leaf arrangement. There are also related *Impatiens* species sold in garden shops.

Did You Know?

The seed pods have projectile seeds that explode out of the pods when they are lightly touched, which is how this plant got the name "touch-me-nots".

Researched and created by Sue Donaldson

Help us improve this species card! Contact us with your updates.