

Impatiens capensis



orange jewelweed

Family	Balsaminaceae		
Origin	Native		
WIS Code	FACW	CoC	3

DESCRIPTION

This annual is most recognized by its bright orange spotted tubular flowers, borne on the smooth bright green to yellowish branching stems (0.5 to 1.5 m tall) in the upper part of the plant. The leaves (4-9 cm long) are simple, alternate and egg-shaped with coarsely toothed margins.



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FLOWERS AND FRUITS

June through October. The tubular flowers (1.5-2 cm) have a long narrow spur that curls back under the tube and points forward. Flowers form on short stalks (pedicles) along shoots (racemes) in the upper part of the plant. Flower color is variable, but typically orange with a varying amount of darker spots (spots sometimes absent.) Fruit is a thin capsule about 2 cm long that pops open at the slightest touch, throwing dark brown oval seeds in all directions.



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HABITAT

Stream banks, floodplain forests, seeps, swamps, marshes, fens, beaver ponds, ditches and disturbed sites.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Impatiens pallida, pale jewelweed, flowers are pale yellow with few to no spots and a back spur curving downward (not forward).



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Impatiens pallida