



Impatiens capensis

WA – Class C Noxious Weed

Spotted Jewelweed

Spotted Touch-Me-Not, Orange Jewelweed

Family: Balsaminaceae

Origins: Native east of the Rocky Mountains in the United States and Canada. The first documentation in Washington was in Pierce County in 1950.

Range: Found throughout the United States, Canada, Asia, and Europe.

Habitat: Commonly grows in moist soils at low elevations near forests, lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands, and ditches. It thrives in partial shade but can grow in full sun.



Impact: Spotted Jewelweed seedlings are difficult to control and form dense carpets that compete with native species. This species is capable of hybridizing with native species. Spotted Jewelweed reproduces by seed. Ripe seeds are forcefully ejected up to 6 feet when disturbed or touched, hence its' other common name of the Spotted Touch-Me-Not. The seeds are high in fat, which increases their buoyancy, allowing them to float long distances on water surfaces.



Description: Spotted Jewelweed is a shallow-rooted annual plant that can grow from 2 to 5 feet tall. It has smooth, hollow, fleshy stems with a reddish tinge. Alternate leaves are elliptic to ovate with round, serrated teeth that come to a point. Flowers are typically orange and have red to orange-colored spots, blooming in late summer. Flower colors may vary, and the petals can be white, cream, or pale yellow with bright pink spots. Flowers are up to 1 inch long with three sepals and five petals. The largest of the sepals forms a recurved spur. The upper petal has a notch at the tip, while the other four petals are fused in pairs. One to five seeds are encased in 1-inch cylindrical to club-shaped capsules.

Common Look-Alikes: Pale Jewelweed, Policeman's Helmet, Small-Flowered Jewelweed, Spurless Jewelweed.

* *Impatiens species contain naphthoquinone, which may cause mild to moderate irritation of the digestive tract.*

Integrated Pest Management - Control Methods

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) combines various methods such as mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical controls to manage pests. IPM offers the possibility of improving the efficiency of pest control while reducing its negative environmental impacts. For more information, see the Cowlitz County Noxious Weed's IPM Resources & Strategy Guide or contact your local Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a customized IPM plan.

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Non-Herbicide Control

Mechanical (pulling, cutting, digging, etc.)	Hand pulling small patches can be effective but must be repeated until the seed bank has been exhausted. Cutting is very effective on medium to large patches and can reduce the risk of soil disturbance and erosion. If seeds capsules are present, remove and dispose of them in a sealed bag to prevent spread.
Cultural	Do not introduce this plant to your landscape. Provide competition by planting native plants.
Biological	Biological agents are currently not available for Spotted Jewelweed in Washington State.

Herbicide Control: Foliar Broadcast Treatment

Triclopyr +2,4-D (Crossbow, Crossroad)	Timing: Spring when plants are actively growing; summer before flowering. Remarks: Repeat application for two years to control seedlings; avoid drift to sensitive crops; do not apply near water.
Glyphosate (Rodeo, Killzall, Kleenup, Roundup)	Timing: Spring when plants are actively growing; summer before flowering. Remarks: Spray complete uniform coverage, but not to the point of runoff; dust on plants may reduce effectiveness; Glyphosate is nonselective, it injures or kills any vegetation it contacts; refer to the label for use in aquatic areas.
Triclopyr Ester / Triclopyr Amine (Garlon 4, Remedy / Garlon 3A)	Timing: Spring when plants are actively growing; summer before flowering. Remarks: Spray complete uniform coverage; dust on plants may reduce effectiveness; Garlon products are registered for rights-of-way, industrial sites, and forestry sites; refer to the label for use in aquatic areas.

* Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board does not endorse any product or brand name. Brand names are listed as an example only. Other commercial products may contain the listed active chemical for herbicide control. Always read and follow the safety protocols and rate recommendations on the herbicide label. **The Label is The Law.**

This control sheet includes excerpts from the Written Findings of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WSNWCB), nwcb.wa.gov. Herbicide information from the PNW Weed Management Handbook (ISBN 978-1-931979-22-1) and product labels.