



Kashmir balsam (*Impatiens balfourii*)



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- Tropical-looking annual with watery stems and bicolored flowers
- Habitats it invades:
 - Urban landscapes
- Status
 - Wisconsin: Restricted
 - Not regulated in neighboring states





Kashmir balsam (*Impatiens balfourii*)

Leaves alternate, simple

- 1-5" long, lance- or oval-shaped
- Leaf margin toothed
- Leaf tip tapered to a long point
- Stems and leaves smooth



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Kashmir balsam (*Impatiens balfourii*)

Flower/fruit

- Flowers white and purple, with a basal spur
- Flowers borne in spreading branches; summer to fall
- Fruit is a capsule that explodes open



Kashmir balsam look alike



The invasive *Impatiens*, Kashmir balsam (*Impatiens balfourii*) and policeman's helmet (*I. glandulifera*), may be confused with the **native** spotted touch-me-not (*I. capensis*) and pale touch-me not (*I. pallida*).



Nisa Karimi, WI DNR

I. balfourii



Barbara Tokarska-Guzik, Bugwood.org

I. glandulifera



Katy Chayka, MinnesotaWildflowers.info © 2009 k.c

I. capensis



Katy Chayka, MinnesotaWildflowers.info

I. pallida

Species	Branching	Leaves	Flowers
Kashmir balsam (<i>Impatiens balfourii</i>) (I)	Alternate	Oval-shaped leaves with long tip, serrated edges	Long stalks of 4-8 pinkish-purple flowers; petals fused to form hood and twin lips; large, uncurved spur
Policeman's helmet (<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>) (I)	Opposite or whorled	Lance-oval shaped, toothed, 6" leaves with pointed tip	White to pink to purple flowers; small spur bends down
Spotted touch-me-not (<i>Impatiens capensis</i>) (N)	Alternate	Oval to egg-shaped; hairless; widely spaced teeth; up to 3" long, 1 1/2" wide; stalks up to 1" long	Orange , sometimes with reddish spots; long spur curves under the tube ; groups of 1-3
Pale touch-me-not (<i>Impatiens pallida</i>) (N)	Alternate	Oval to egg-shaped; hairless; toothed; up to 5" long, 3" wide; stalks up to 2" long	Yellow , sometimes with reddish spots; narrow spur in back bends down ; groups of 1-3