

## Balfour's touch-me-not

### *Impatiens balfourii*

#### Description

Introduced as an ornamental.

#### Habit

Herbaceous annual, grows to 1 to 2.5 feet in height.

#### Leaves

Simple, ovate-oblong, acuminate leaf apex (long leaf tip) with serrated margins.

#### Stems

Erect, simple or branched, translucent, pale green and glabrous.

#### Flowers

Showy, distinct pinkish-purple flowers. Flower petals are fused to form hood and twin lips, and a large spur. 4-8 flowers occur individually on long, erect pedicles (stalks).

#### Fruits and Seeds

Ovoid seed. Fruit is linear to subclavate, glabrous, loculicidal with the valves dehiscent





elastically and coiling. Seed is 0.25 - 0.3 cm and fruit is 2 - 4 cm long.

### **Habitat**

Native to Asia and the Himalayan region. Found in upland forests, wetlands, grasslands, marshes and stream edges.

### **Reproduction**

Rapidly by seed.

### **Similar**

May be confused with other Impatiens species.

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Preventing plants from going to seed is important. Cut or mow plants while in flower, prior to seed maturation. Herbicides for control are being explored.

### **Credits**

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