
Ornamental Jewelweed (Himalayan Balsam)

Impatiens glandulifera



This annual plant is ranked **severely invasive** in Maine. It grows up to 6' tall in sun or part shade, and prefers wet sites.

- Leaves are lance-shaped with pointy tips, and toothed edges, 2-6" long. The upper leaves are whorled.
 - Stems are 6-sided, hollow, reddish-green.
 - Flowers vary from white, pink to purple in groups of 3 during June to October.
 - Fruit capsules are ½-¾". Seeds explode when the capsule dries or is disturbed. Each plant produces about 800 seeds.
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Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut,
#5452989, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut,
#5452860, Bugwood.org

HOW TO CONTROL:

- Pulls easily, before seeds form and before flowering in the summer. But fallen plants can develop shoots and roots, so dispose of debris.
- Bag and dispose of plants if flowers are present, because seed pods will continue to develop.
- Plants cut above the lowest node may flower, so remove the entire plant.

NOTE: Flowering plants that have been herbicide-sprayed still produce viable seed.

Sources

Ornamental Jewelweed

https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/impatiens_glan.htm

<https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=12794>

Controls

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Casco Bay Invasive Species Network, Winning the War on Weeds (p. 22)
