

# spotted touch-me-not

*Impatiens capensis*

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division: Magnoliophyta  
Class: Magnoliopsida  
Order: Geraniales  
Family: Balsaminaceae

## ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

## FEATURES

The spotted touch-me-not is an annual herb. Its upright stems are branched, smooth and may grow to eight feet tall. Arranged alternately on the stem, the simple leaves are toothed, smooth and about three inches long. Orange flowers (up to one and one-half inches long) arise from the base of the leaves. Fruits are capsules up to one inch long.

## BEHAVIORS

The spotted touch-me-not grows in moist woods, stream banks, marshes and swamps. This plant blooms from June through September. When mature capsules are touched, they split open, throwing the seeds several feet.



plants with flowers

## ILLINOIS RANGE





flower

**Aquatic Habitats**

bottomland forests; rivers and streams; marshes; swamps

**Woodland Habitats**

bottomland forests

**Prairie and Edge Habitats**

none