Begoniaceae - The Begonia Family

Genus to know: Begonia

Habit
- Mostly herbs, shrubs, or lianas.

Leaves
- Mesophytic
- Simple, entire or serrate, often palmately lobed. Oblique leaf base
- Usually fleshy and stipulate
- Alternate, spiral or distichous and often hairy
- Elephant ear shape

Inflorescence
- Cymose
- Bright yellow papillosa stigmas mimic a cluster of anthers. (in groups of 6)
- Perianth of petaloid tepals
  - Usually 4 (in 2 whorls) and 5 (a single whorl)
  - Reproduction by pollination
  - Monoecious
  - Winged inferior ovary
  - Androecium very small or lacking

Economic Uses: Over 130 cultivated species for ornamental uses