**Faboideae**  
The Papilionoid Subfamily

478 genera  
13,600-14,060 species

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**Economic Uses:**
- The seeds and pods of many of the herbaceous species are sources of human and animal food and are of particular value in the protein-deficient areas of the world because they are rich in protein (beans, peas, etc.).
- Other species are used as grazing crops, such as *Trifolium repens* (clover).

**Rosids:** Reduced Phylogeny of Required Families

**Characteristic features:**
- Leaves pinnately compound to trifoliolate.
- Root nodulation is very common.
- Flowers: zygomorphic, upper petal (banner) outermost; well-defined wings and keel; 10 stamens monadelphous or diadelphous.
- Pollen is released in monads.

**Distribution:**
Widespread; the subfamily is present in temperate, tropical, and subtropical regions. Members are adapted to a wide variety of environments.

References for further inquiry: