Salicaceae
The Willow and Poplar Family

55 genera
1,200 species

Distribution:
Widespread, from tropical to north temperate and boreal regions.

Economic Uses:
- The wood of species in this family is fast growing but usually of poor quality as timber and so is often used for making smaller objects.
- Many species are planted for ornamental or architectural effect, especially the Weeping Willow (S. x sepulcralis).
- Aspirin was originally derived from the bark of Salix but is now manufactured synthetically.

Rosids: Reduced Phylogeny of Required Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fabids</th>
<th>Malvids</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salicaceae</td>
<td>Engronaeae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabaceae</td>
<td>Rosaceae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cucurbitaceae</td>
<td>Fagaceae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sapindaceae</td>
<td>Brassicaceae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malvaceae</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Characteristic features:
- Trees and shrubs, sometimes dwarf.
- Inflorescences: catkins of flowers usually lacking a normal perianth.
- Flowers: bisexual or unisexual; 3-8 sepals; 3-8 petals; 2-many stamens; 2-4 connate carpels, in superior ovary.
- Fruit: variable.
- Leaves simple, often with salicoid teeth. Salicin present in most species.

References for further inquiry: