

GROSSULARIACEAE (Currant, Gooseberry Family)
Order Rosales

Trees and shrubs with a cosmopolitan distribution, but most common in the northern hemisphere. *Ribes* is the only genus in Alaska and is described here.

Small shrubs with alternate, simple leaves which are often palmately veined and/or lobed. Prickles found on some species. Small actinomorphic 5-merous flowers arranged in axillary racemes. Perianth is usually small and bract-like. Hypanthium is well developed early in flowering stage, the ovary is inferior and develops into a berry. Hypanthium and fruit sometimes covered with resin dots, stalked glands, or hairs.

Some workers consider the genus *Ribes* to be in Saxifragaceae (see Hulten and Welsh), others split Grossulariaceae into several families on a world wide basis. Differs from Saxifragaceae described here in its woody habit, having a well-developed hypanthium, an inferior ovary, and the fruit being a berry.

Ribes (currants)

