

## RUBIACEAE

### The Coffee Family

In the tropics this family comprises mainly trees and shrubs all of which have simple, entire, opposite leaves. **The stipules sheath the stem and may be divided into segments. Whatever their form, they occur between each pair of petioles (interpetiolar).** Flowers are regular and bisexual with 4 or 5 free sepals, 4 or 5 fused petals, 4 or 5 stamens (inserted on the corolla tube) and a single inferior ovary. Coffee is the main crop plant in this group while other members are cultivated as flowering shrubs (e.g *Ixora*).



*Psychotria nervosa* - St. John's Bush

