

Titan Arum Flower

Source: DTE

Recently, the **Titan Arum flower**, one of the world's largest flowers, bloomed in **Australia**. It grows over **10 feet tall** and blooms once a decade.

- Structure: It has a tall, pale yellowish phallic structure rising from the centre.
 - The base of the flower has a 'corm' which is an underground energy-storing structure that supports its 10 year bloom cycle and 6-month fruiting period.
- Uniqueness: It mimics the stench of rotting flesh to attract its pollinators carnivorous bees and flies that feed on corpses.
 - Pollination by flies on rotten meat-smelling plants is called Sapromyophily.
- Habitat: It blossoms on limestone hills in the rainforests of western Sumatra, Indonesia. It doesn't bloom in the wild in Australia.
- IUCN Status: The species has fewer than 1,000 individuals left in the wild, and is listed as 'endangered'.
- Other Similar Flowers: Rafflesia arnoldi (largest individual flower in the world), Dracunculus vulgaris, Stapelia gigantea, Hydnora africana and Helicodiceros muscivorus.

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