

Life Cycle of the Titan-Arum

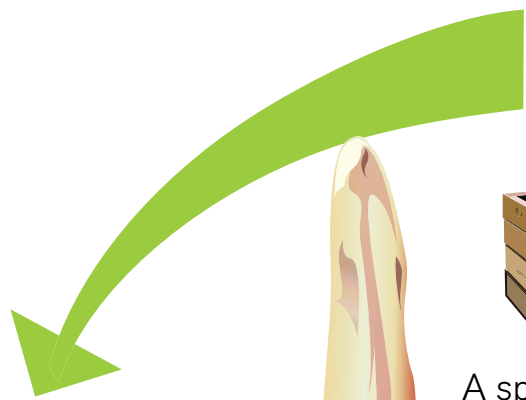
Flower cycle

Once every four to five years, it produces a flower.

Leaf cycle

Most years, the spike grows into a huge leaf with complex leaflets.

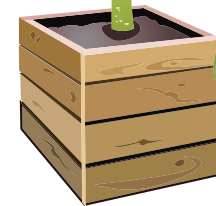
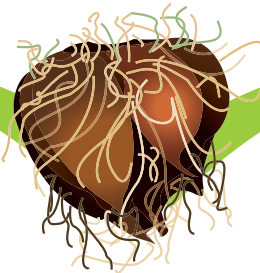
Roughly a week before opening, the frills on the spathe can be seen.



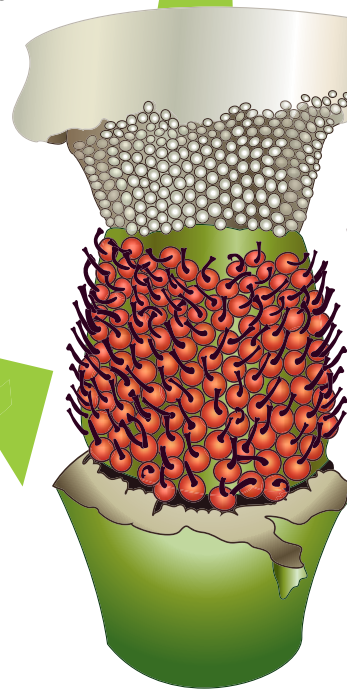
A spike emerges from the corm after the dormant period.



While the plant is dormant, its underground corm waits to begin a new cycle.



The spathe dies back after two months, and the plant becomes dormant again.

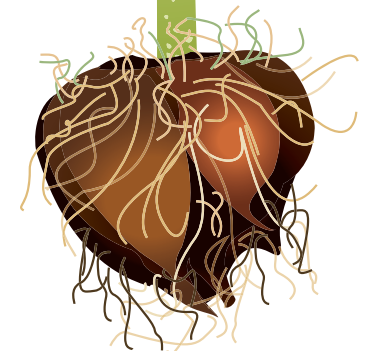


Berry-like fruits grow on the spadix. Birds eat the fruits and help disperse the seeds.

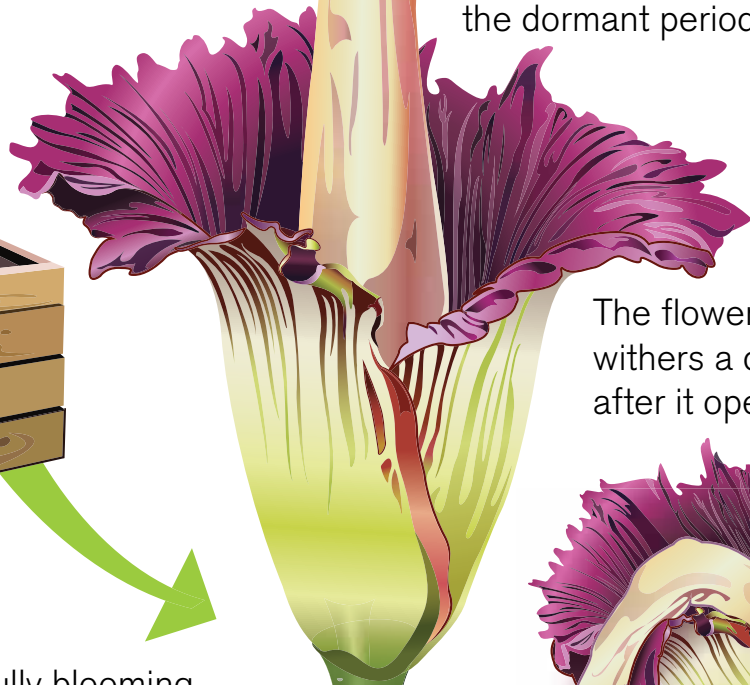
The leaf falls over and dies after 12 to 18 months, and the plant becomes dormant again.



The leaves gather energy from the sun and store it in the corm. It will need this energy to bloom.



The fully blooming flower smells like a dead animal and attracts pollinators.



The flower withers a day after it opens.

