Rare Corpse Flower Expected to Bloom at San Diego Botanic Garden

This stinking wonder will emit its odor for just a few days, offering a unique chance for visitors to see - and smell - its extraordinary bloom

Encinitas, Calif. (June 30, 2023) – San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG) expects a rare *Amorphophallus titanum*, best known by its common name as corpse flower, to bloom at the Garden over the next few days. The plant will be on public display in the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, adding a thrilling new element to *Savage Gardens,* the carnivorous plant exhibition opening on Saturday, July 1.

The blooming of a corpse plant is a rare and special event, as most plants require seven to ten years to produce their first blooms, and bloom only every four to five years thereafter. This will be the first corpse flower blooming at SDBG since November 2021. Once this plant is in full bloom, the corpse flower will be approximately 4 feet tall and emit its unique stench for only two days. Today through next week, the flower will continue to grow approximately 3 inches per day until attaining its peak bloom height and then finally open up to display its full glory.

"The corpse flower is the smelly rock star of the plant world," said San Diego Botanic Garden President and CEO Ari Novy, Ph.D. "Its putrescence attracts pollinators in its native habitat in Sumatra, Indonesia, while also attracting curious humans from around the world excited to experience this beautiful, stinky, giant inflorescence."

Due to its odor, which smells like a rotting corpse or carcass, the corpse flower is characterized as a carrion flower that attracts carcass-eating insects. Native to the rainforests of Sumatra, the humid climate that this rare and endangered plant grows in will be replicated in the Garden's 8,000 square foot glass enclosed Conservatory.

This magnificent plant is currently on loan from Fullerton Arboretum. Fewer than 1,000 plants remain in the wild, and botanic gardens and private collections currently have roughly 500 specimens in their collections.

For those unable to visit in person, a 24-hour live stream of the plant will be available on the SDBG website here. While the exact bloom date cannot be determined, SDBG will regularly update its website and social media.

Ticket reservations are required. Entrance to the Conservatory is included with General Admission. Members receive free admission, non-member admissions range from $10 to $18. For more information or to plan your visit, please visit www.SDBG.org.

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About San Diego Botanic Garden

Established in 1970, San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG) is a 37-acre urban oasis located in Encinitas, California, just north of San Diego. The Garden's four miles of trails and 8,000 square foot glass conservatory display more than 5,300 plant species and varieties. A premiere institution for botanical science and conservation, SDBG is actively involved in conservation horticulture, botany, and applied plant sciences to address our biggest local and global challenges, from biodiversity loss to climate change, food insecurity to environmental degradation. SDBG has the largest public bamboo collection in North America; gardens representing different regions and flora of the world; and demonstration gardens showcasing fruits and vegetables, water-smart ornamentals, and native plants.Through an array of educational programming, events and activities for both children and adults, the Garden aims to create, share and apply plant wisdom to the world. Learn more at sdbg.org. | FB @SDBotanicGarden | Instagram @sandiegobotanicgarden | TikTok @sandiegobotanicgarden | LinkedIn @SanDiegoBotanicGarden | Twitter @SDBGarden