



Corpse Flower Crossword Puzzle

Read the story of the corpse flower at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Fill in the blanks with the words from the list below. Fit the words into the puzzle. Then answer the question by unscrambling the circled letters in the puzzle. Good luck!

Corpse Flower Crossword Puzzle Clues

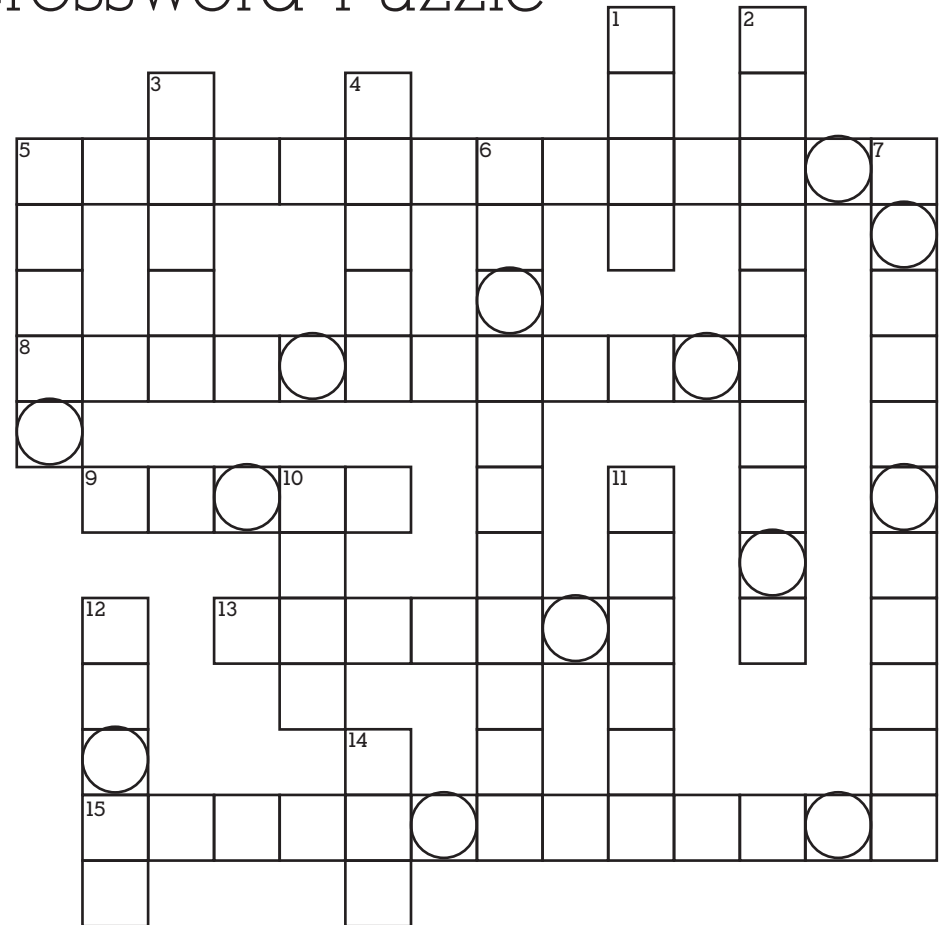
Something special is happening at the Chicago Botanic Garden—a **(9 across) (10 down)** is blooming!

Scientifically speaking, this plant belongs in the plant genus **(5 across)**. It is commonly known as the **(8 across)** because at peak bloom, it smells like a **(1 down)** animal. It comes from the Indonesian island **(13 across)**. Habitat destruction and changes in the environment affect this species. It is considered **(2 down)** and may need our help to survive.

The central flower spike of this plant is unusually **(14 down)**, reaching 6 to 8 feet tall. Scientists believe that its pointed **(4 down)**, maroon **(3 down)**, and **(7 down)** might attract every hungry **(15 across)** and fly within a mile. These insects will visit the corpse flower expecting to find a meal, but it only fools them into picking up some pollen. If they fly off to another flower, hungry and disappointed, then the corpse flower's trickery will result in successful **(6 down)**.

Horticulturists at the Garden were delighted when the plant emerged from its dormant state with a flower bud. As the green, leaf-like **(12 down)** that covered the growing spike (called a spadix) withered away and the ruffled **(11 down)** began changing color, they knew it was close to bloom time.

Nobody knows the best way to help this plant bloom when it's in a greenhouse instead of the rainforest. The first titan arum on display, "Spike," did not fully develop. The second flower, **(5 down)**, bloomed in September 2015. Now Sprout is blooming, and we are lucky to see this rare phenomenon. There may be others in the future, so keep your fingers crossed and your nose plugged!



ALICE
AMORPHOPHALLUS
ARUM
BIG
BRACT
CARRION BEETLE

COLOR
CORPSE FLOWER
DEAD
POLLINATION
TITAN

VULNERABLE
SHAPE
SMELLY SPIKE
SPATHE
SUMATRA

Question: What did the fly say as it was leaving the corpse flower?

Answer:

_____!

Corpse Flower Crossword Answers

Something special is happening at the Chicago Botanic Garden—a **TITAN ARUM** is blooming!

Scientifically speaking, this plant belongs in the plant genus **AMOPHOPHALLUS**. It is commonly known as the **CORPSE FLOWER** because at peak bloom it smells like a DEAD animal. It comes from the Indonesian island **SUMATRA**. Habitat destruction and changes in the environment affect this species. It is considered **VULNERABLE** and may need our help to survive.

The central flower spike of this plant is unusually **BIG**, reaching 6 to 8 feet tall. Scientists believe that its pointed **SHAPE**, maroon **COLOR**, and **SMELLY SPIKE** might attract every hungry **CARRION BEETLE** and fly within a mile. These insects will visit the corpse flower expecting to find a meal, but it only fools them into picking up some pollen. If they fly off to another flower, hungry and disappointed, then the corpse flower's trickery will result in successful **POLLINATION**.

Horticulturists at the Garden were delighted when the plant emerged from its dormant state with a flower bud. As the green, leaf-like **BRACT** that covered the growing spike (called a spadix) withered away, and the ruffled **SPATHE** began changing color, they knew it was close to bloom time.

Nobody knows the best way to help this plant bloom when it's in a greenhouse instead of the rainforest. The first titan arum display, "Spike," did not fully develop. The second corpse flower, **ALICE**, bloomed in September 2015. Now Sprout is blooming, and we are lucky to see this rare phenomenon. There may be others in the future, so keep your fingers crossed and your nose plugged!

Question: What did the fly say as it was leaving the corpse flower?

Answer: Smell you later!

