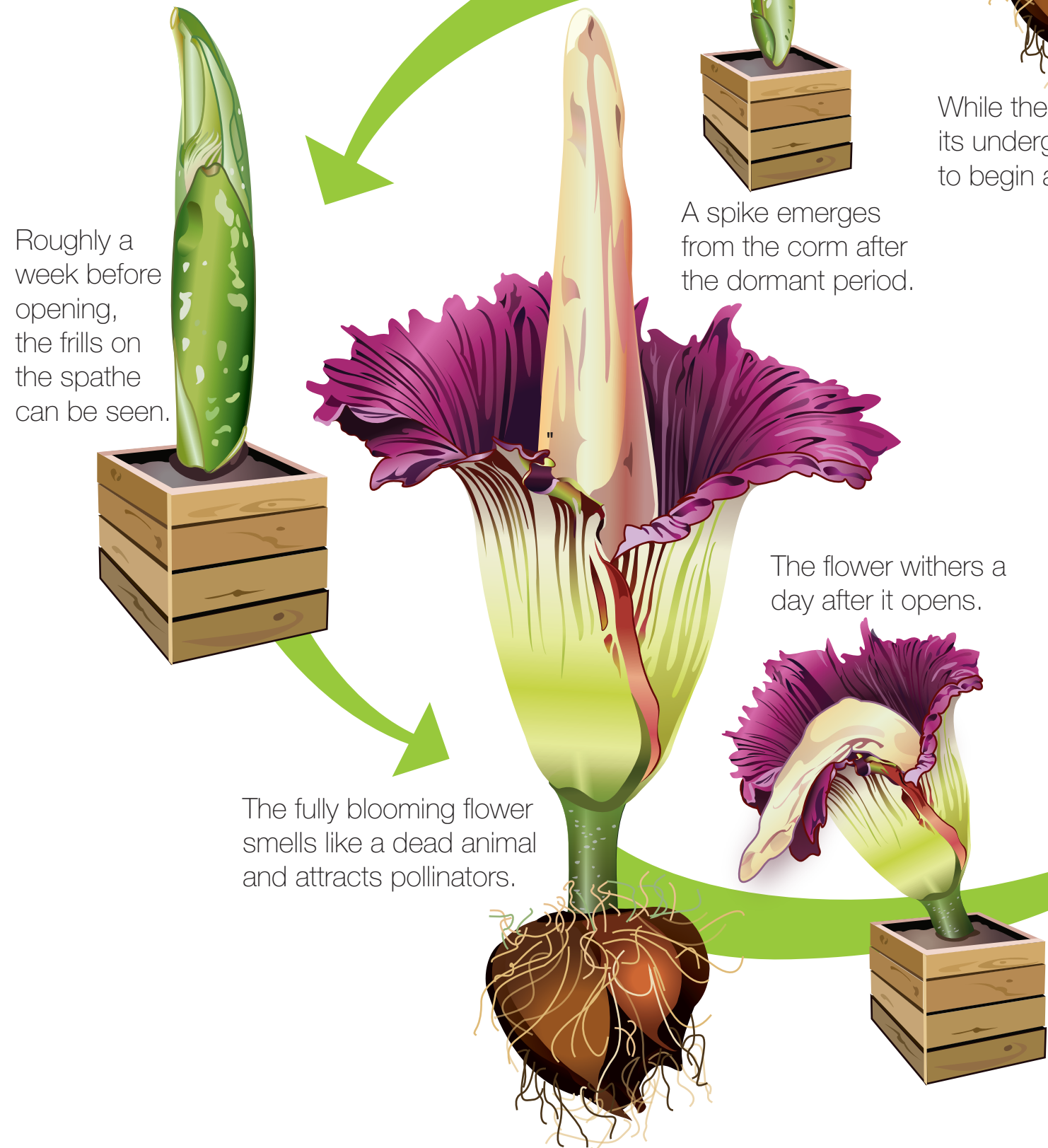


Life Cycle of the Titan Arum

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.

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.

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.

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