LONGWOOD GARDENS

Weird Plants Cards

Art from Weird Plants by Chris Thorogood





WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT



Rafflesia Rafflesia arnoldii

Category: Vampire Plant

Location: N. Borneo

Features: Lacks leaves, roots and stems, and lives in tissue of a host plant. World's largest flower.

Pollinator: Flies, attracted by stinky

odor.



Hydnora Hvdnora africana

Category: Vampire Plant

Location: Semi-deserts in S. Africa

Features: No chlorophyll and takes nutrients from other plants' roots. "World's weirdest plant."

Pollinator: Dung beetles attracted by

feces-like odor.



Low's Pitcher Plant Nepenthes Iowii

Category: Killer Plant

Location: N. Borneo mountainside

Features: Tree shrew excretes in pitcher giving plant nutrients.

Pollinator: Tree shrews attracted by



Trumpet Pitcher Sarracenia flava

Category: Killer Plant

Location: Swamps of S.E. US

Features: Stuns insects to fall into

pool of digestive juices.

Pollinator: Insects attracted by sweet

nectar & colors.



Venus Flytrap Dionaea muscipula

Category: Killer Plant

Location: Wetlands of the Carolinas

Features: Trap closes if hairs are touched more than once, or if multiple

hairs are touched.

Pollinator: Insects, small amphibians & reptiles attracted by sweet nectar.

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Rothschild's Slipper Orchid

Paphiopedilum rothschildianum

Category: Fraudster Plant

Location: Mt. Kinabalu in N. Borneo

Features: Sepals covered with spots attracting wasps wanting to lay eggs.

Extremely rare.

Pollinator: Parasitic wasps attracted by small green aphid-looking dots.



Flying Duck Orchid

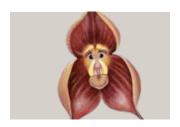
Caleana major

Category: Fraudster Plant

Location: S. and E. Australia

Features: Flower looks like flying duck & fling sawflies into pollencovered reproductive structures.

Pollinator: Male sawflies attracted by female sawfly-shaped flowers.



Monkey-Face **Orchid**

Dracula simia

Category: Fraudster Plant

Location: Central and South America

Features: Flower resembles a monkey and lower lip looks like a mushroom

Pollinator: Fungus gnats attracted by

mushroom scent.



Dutchman's Pipe Aristolochia spp.

Category: Jailer Plant

Location: Most continents

Features: Hairs trap insects and then wither to release them - also known

as birthworts.

Pollinator: Insects attracted by color

& smell of flower.



Titan Arum Amorphophallus titanum

Category: Jailer Plant

Location: Forests of Sumatra

Features: Inflorescence is a bunch of tiny flowers and takes 7-10 years

to bloom

Pollinator: Insects attracted

by corpse-like smell.

WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT WEIRD PLANT



Bird Of Paradise Strelitzia reginae

Category: Accomplice Plant

Location: Cape Provinces of S. Africa

Features: Sunbird perches on petals which spring open revealing pollen. Perennial plant.

Pollinator: Sunbird attracted by beak-like shape and colorful flower.



Bat Pitcher Plant Nepenthes hemsleyana

Category: Accomplice Plant

Location: Borneo

Features: Provides roosting site for bats as they nourish plant with their

guano.

Pollinator: Woolly bats attracted by

reflection of bat calls.



Half-Mens
Pachypodium namaguanum

Category: Survivor Plant

Location: S. Africa's northern cape and S. Namibia

Features: Silhouette looks like a person. Stores large amounts of water and lives several hundred years. Succulent plant.

Pollinator: Ants & bees attracted by sap.



Coco De Mer Lodoicea maldivica

Category: Survivor Plant

Location: Seychelles Islands

Features: Largest seed in plant kingdom-only 3 populations left in world from limited seed dispersal.

Pollinator: Unknown, suspected to be by bees & lizards, wind and water.



Durian *Durio zibethinus*

Category: Hitch-hiker Plant

Location: S.E. Asia

Features: Strong, foul odor

and sweet fruit.

Pollinator: Mammals like orangutans spread seeds after eating fruit. Bats

pollinate flowers.

WEIRD PLANT



Traveller's Palm

Ravenala madagascariensis

Category: Hitch-hiker Plant
Location: Madagascar

Features: Flowering plant related to Bird of Paradise. Not a true palm.

Pollinator: Lemurs attracted by blue

seed pods.

CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD
My stinky odor attracts flies. I live off a host plant	My sepals are covered with spots that look like aphids to attract my pollinator.	I live underground in the desert until I bloom.	I trick my pollinator into thinking I'm a female sawfly.	I can be found in North Borneo. I am known as a toilet
and don't have a stem, leaves or roots.		Dung beetles like me.	I can be found in Australia.	for the tree shrew.
	I am extremely rare.			

CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD
I can be found in Central and South America. I smell like a mushroom.	My bright colors and sweet nectar attract insects. I produce a paralyzing narcotic to stun insects.	I can be known as a birthwort. I'm found on most continents.	I can be found in North or South Carolina. I can catch small amphibians, reptiles or insects.	I smell like a corpse. It takes me 7-10 years to bloom.

CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD	CLUE CARD
I am like a diving board for a sunbird.	I can be found in Madagascar.	I can be found in Borneo.	I can live several hundred years by storing water in my trunk. I am a succulent.	I have the largest seed in the plant kingdom. No one knows exactly how I am pollinated.
I am a perennial.	Lemurs like my large, blue seed pods.	I am nourished by bat guano.		

CLUE CARD

Forest mammals spread my seeds after eating my sweet fruit.

My fruit emits a foul odor.