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Next steps in evaluating, developing and diversifying the global *ex situ* meta collection of *Amorphophallus titanum*

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Over recent decades, *Amorphophallus titanum* has become an icon for botanic gardens worldwide. The species has proven an unparalleled ability to draw crowds and connect people with plants and has also created ample opportunity for botanic gardens to bring attention to the species' endangered status and the importance of *ex situ* collections. Bloom events have become more common as pollen is exchanged and propagules and seeds are distributed between institutions. The *ex situ* global meta collection today may rival the *in situ* population in raw numbers, however a recent pedigree analysis suggests that there is critical work to be done should the species need restoration in the wild. Genetic diversity is critical to conservation success, and so an organized effort is required to turn a large meta collection of endangered plants into a diverse collection with robust conservation utility. Botanic gardens that are committed to these efforts need to work together to strengthen data, make strategic exchanges and work efficiently with space and resources. In achieving this, *Amorphophallus titanum* can not only continue to serve as an iconic draw at botanic gardens, but can also become a champion in global cooperation towards successful plant conservation. This presentation will review what is known of the existing meta collection through Fant's pedigree and paint a picture of how botanic gardens can collaborate and leverage resources to develop a robust global meta collection.