

MYRMECOPHYTE

Meaning: Myrmecophyte: a plant that has a symbiotic relationship with ants, providing them shelter and food in exchange for protection and other benefits.

1. Myrmecophytes exhibit fascinating adaptations that allow them to thrive in symbiotic relationships with ant colonies.
2. The acacia tree is a well-known myrmecophyte, providing shelter and food to the ants that live within its hollow thorns.
3. Researchers are studying myrmecophytes to understand how these plants have evolved to attract and sustain ant partners.
4. In tropical rainforests, myrmecophytes play a crucial role in the ecosystem by enhancing nutrient cycling and offering protection to their ant allies.
5. The mutualistic relationship between myrmecophytes and ants often leads to increased survival rates for both species in competitive environments.

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