

AGANĪSĪĀ pulchēllā.

Pretty Aganisia.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. Ord. ORCHIDACEÆ § VANDEÆ.

AGANISIA. *Perianthium* patens, æquale; sepalis lateralibus haud basi productis. *Labellum* liberum, mobile, indivisum, hypochilio parvo concavo, ab epichilio cristâ transversâ glandulosâ diviso. *Columna* erecta, semiteres, marginata, apice utrinque brachio acuto patulo aucta. *Anthera* ecristata. *Rostellum* elongatum. *Pollinia* 4, per paria connata, caudiculâ lineari, glandulâ parvâ ovali.—*Rhizoma* repens, pseudobulbosa. *Pseudobulbi* monophylli. *Racemus* erectus, radicalis, foliis brevior.

Aganisia pulchella. Bot. Register, 1839, misc. no. 65.

Rhizoma repens, pennæ anserinæ crassitie, squamis vaginantibus arctè vestitum; pseudobulbis parvis acuminatis intra squamas latentibus. Folia solitaria, oblonga, membranacea, 5-costata, in petiolum angustata. Racemi radicales. i. e. e squamis pseudobulbos fulcientibus, erecti, 3-6-flori, foliis breviores. Flores candidi, 1½ unciam lati; sepalis petalisque subæqualibus, ovato-oblongis, acutis, patulis. Labellum cum columnâ articulatam; hypochilio concavo sanguineo maculato, epichilio latiore, ovato, integro, medio luteo, basi cristâ lutescente glandulosâ ab hypochilio diviso. Columna erecta, basi ne minimè quidè producta, semiteres, apice brachiis duobus patentibus incurvis aucta; rostello lineari producto. Pollinia 4, incumbentia (⊙ ⊙) nec collateralia ut olim dixi; caudiculâ lineari membranaceâ, glandulâ parvâ, subrotundâ tenerâ.

This pretty Demerara plant has hitherto flowered no where that I am aware of except with Messrs. Loddiges, who imported it. A short account of it was given in this work in the place above quoted; and the present figure, with a correction or two, completes its history.

If its column were produced into a foot, and the lower sepals unequal at the base, it would be a *Maxillaria*; but as

* From ἀγάρω, quiet or desirable, in allusion to the pretty, neat appearance of the plant.

there is no trace of that character, which is essential to *Maxillaria*, the genus seems sufficiently distinct.

Fig. 1. represents the column, with the labellum pulled downwards to shew its true form, and the crest that separates the upper lip from the lower. Fig. 2. shews the pollen-masses in their true position, one half of the right hand pair being cut away. By some accident the pollen-masses of the first flower I examined had been pressed out of their natural position, which formerly led me to describe them as collateral instead of incumbent.

In order to cultivate this plant successfully it should be suspended upon a block of wood from the rafters of the stove, and its thick fleshy roots allowed to hang in the air and imbibe its moisture. A damp atmosphere, syringing its roots and leaves freely when in a growing state, and shade during bright sunshine, are the principal requisites in its cultivation. In other respects it may receive the same treatment as the rest of this tribe.