BRASSIA Lawrenceana.

Mrs. Lawrence's Brassia.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDACEÆ, § VANDEÆ.

BRASSIA. Botanical Register, vol. 21. fol. 1754.

B. Lawrenceana; sepalis lateralibus elongatis, labello oblongo apice lanceolato subundulato: callo baseos simplici canaliculato truncato pubescente.

Perhaps no genus of the Orchidaceous order is more worth cultivation than Brassias, for, without a single exception, they are handsome, and very easy to manage; most of them too are sweet-scented. But they are difficult to distinguish from each other, especially those which, like the species now figured, have the lateral sepals much lengthened out.

At first sight, in examining this, one would refer it to B. macrostachya; but the sepals are not half so long, and the tumour at foot of the lip is simple and truncated, not sloping forward, and supported by three advanced tubercles.

In like manner B. Lanceana, which agrees with it in the truncated tumour, has two tubercles in front of it, and its lateral sepals are much shorter. When dried the sepals of B. Lawrenceana become bright brown, while those of B. Lanceana remain pale yellow.

Finally, B. caudata has the lip of quite a different form.

We are informed by Mrs. Lawrence that the species is a native of Brazil. It has very sweet-scented flowers.

Fig. 1. represents the hairy tumour at the base of the lip.

Like the other species this requires the heat of the stove, and should be treated in the same manner as Brassia maculata.

It requires a plentiful supply of water at its roots and over its leaves when they are fully formed, but great care must be taken in applying this when the leaves and pseudo-bulbs are voung, otherwise they are sure to be damaged, and to decay.