Genus *Brassia*,

Known as spider orchids because the sepals and petals are long slender with a pinched spotting lip, resembling the legs and body of the spider, respectively. Plants are large, has a strong, creeping rhizome and it occurs in Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panamá and Perú. Its pseudobulbs are a compressed ovoid shape and are up to 7 in (18 cm) long. There is a single leaf about 20 in. (50 cm) long. An inflorescence arises from the base of the pseudobulbs and bears up to 15 flowers.

Brassia are an important component in the *Oncidium* Alliance, these intergeneric breeding lines, which have recently become so popular. Species of *Brassia* from upper elevations are not particularly colorful; rather, they contribute large size, attractive orderly inflorescences and extreme vigor to their breeding lines. (Mirenda 2018).

There are approximately 60 species of *Brassia* that can be found from as far north as Florida and south through México and South America, to the West Indies. They are epiphytic and rarely terrestrial. Plants are sympodial, having slender to stout pseudobulbs growing from a short rhizome, each producing three to four leaves (Palermo 1999).

Positive traits

Brassia size flowers are larger but with narrow segment and this is one of the remarkable characteristics, species member of the genus can impart to their progenies, increase flower size. Also spacing between flowers can be transmitted to their hybrids.

Vigor, easy to grow is pass to the offspring, many *Brassia* are good grower and can take rapidly a greenhouse. Another culture positive aspect is they can be heat tolerant, expanding geographically the possibility of grower these incredible hybrids.

Negative traits

Mentioned by Baker as "dilution genes" regarding colors, which weakening of the color in many intergeneric hybrids. In some cases, can be a positive trait if the breeder is looking for white or not colors hybrids. Another downside using Brassias is related to seed viability, sometime first-generation intergeneric using *Brassia* can be not fertile.

Finally, due to their narrow segment, some hybrids can inherit this trait making a flower not round, either not full that can preclude to be appreciate for hybridizer, judges and collectors.

Names	Progeny F1/Total	FCC	AM	HCC	JC	AQ	CCE	CCM	CHM	CBR	CBM	Total	Strenghten	Weakness
*Brassia verrucosa (B. brachiata)	70/648		7	2	1			8				18	Vigorous, increasing size	Narrow segments
*Brassia gireoudiana	42/353		21	4			1	3	1			30	Increase size, nice inflorescence presentation	Narrow segments
*Brassia caudata	25/61		2	1	1			5				9		
*Brassia arcuigera	49/284		6	5	1			3		1		16	Full open form, increase size, improve presentation	Narrow segments

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