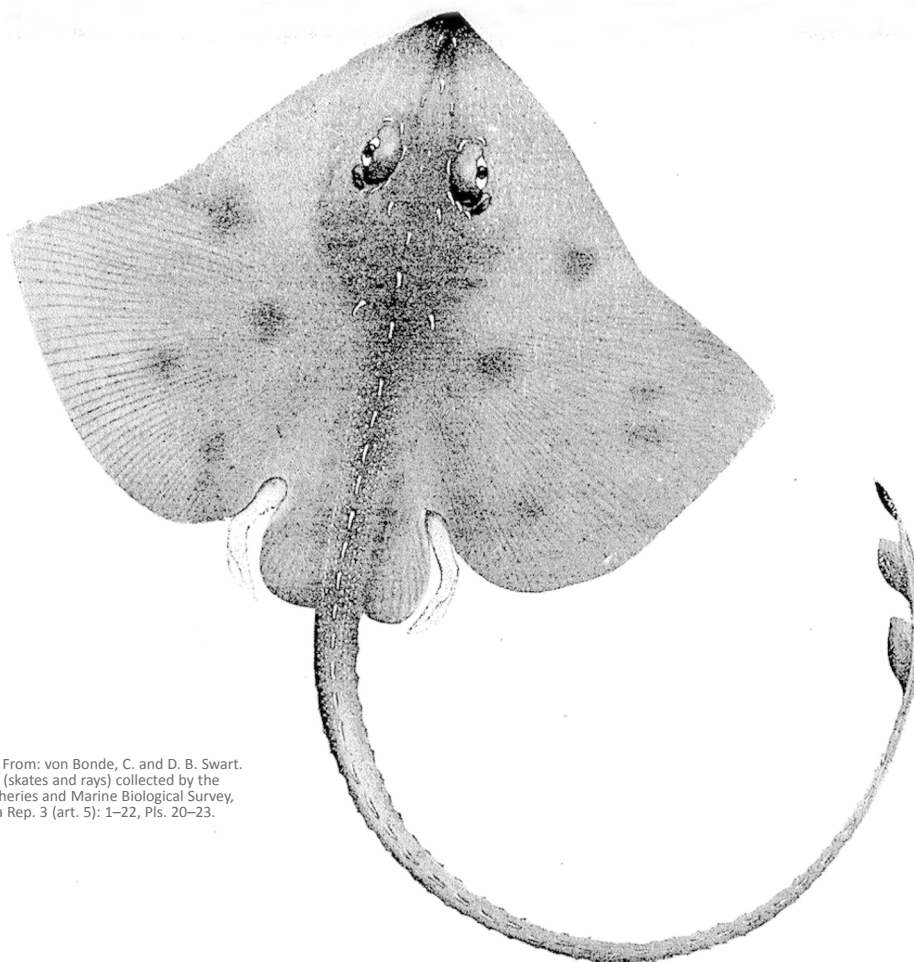


Order RAJIFORMES

Leg Skates or Pygmy Skates

Family **GURGESIELLIDAE**

de Buen 1959



*Cruriraja parcomaculata*. From: von Bonde, C. and D. B. Swart. 1923. The Platosomia (skates and rays) collected by the S. S. "Pickle." Report Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey, Union of South Africa Rep. 3 (art. 5): 1–22, Pls. 20–23.

**Cruriraja**

**Bigelow & Schroeder 1948**

*cruris* (L.), leg or shank (i.e., limb), referring to anterior lobes of pelvic fins, which form a slender, limb-like structure; *raja*, from *raia*, Latin for ray or skate

***Cruriraja andamanica* (Lloyd 1909)** *-ica* (L.), belonging to: Andaman Sea, northeastern Indian Ocean, type locality

***Cruriraja atlantis* Bigelow & Schroeder 1948** named after the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute research vessel Atlantis, which collected three new species of skates along the coasts of Cuba, including this one

***Cruriraja cadenati* Bigelow & Schroeder 1962** in honor of French ichthyologist Jean Cadenat (1908–1992), Director, Marine Biological Section of the Institut Français d’Afrique Noire (Gorée, Senegal), for his work on the elasmobranchs of the west coast of Africa

***Cruriraja durbanensis* (von Bonde & Swart 1923)** *-ensis* (L.), suffix denoting place: off the coast of Durban, South Africa (a curious name since type locality is Hondeklip Bay, on the western, not eastern, coast of South Africa)

***Cruriraja hulleyi* Aschliman, Ebert & Compagno 2010** in honor of South

African ichthyologist Percy Alexander “Butch” Hulley (b. 1941), Iziko South African Museum, for his “pioneering” research on the skates of southern Africa (where this skate occurs)

***Cruriraja parcomaculata* (von Bonde & Swart 1923)** *parcus* (L.), scanty; *maculatus* (L.), spotted, allusion not explained, probably referring to fewer spots on disc compared with *Rajella leopardus* (Rajidae), its presumed congener at the time

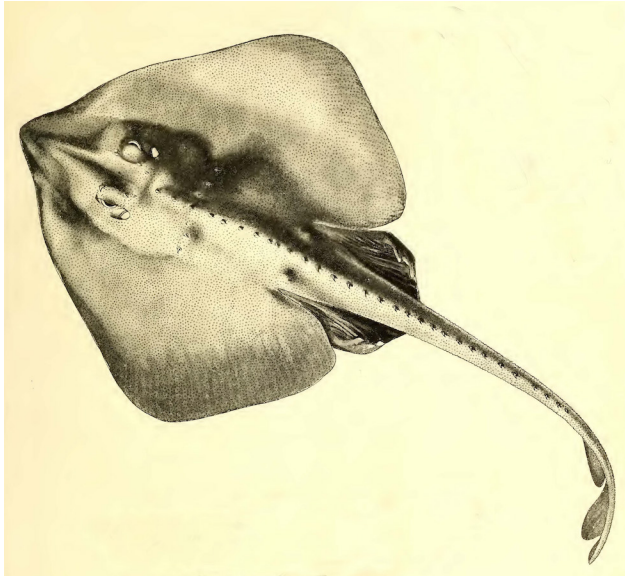
***Cruriraja poeyi* Bigelow & Schroeder 1948** patronym not identified but clearly in honor of Cuban zoologist Felipe Poey (1799–1891), an appropriate honor for a skate described from Cuba

***Cruriraja rugosa* Bigelow & Schroeder 1958** Latin for wrinkled or shriveled, presumably referring to minute prickles covering underside of tail

**Fenestraja**

**McEachran & Compagno 1982**

*fenestra* (L.), window (but in biology meaning a small natural hole or opening), proposed as a subgenus of *Neoraja* (Rajidae), referring to presence of nasal capsules with basal fenestrae, compared with *Neoraja*, which lacks them); *raja*, from *raia*, Latin for ray or skate



*Fenestraja mamillidens*. From: Alcock, A. W. 1894. Illustrations of the zoology of the Royal Indian marine surveying steamer Investigator. Fishes. Calcutta. Illustrations of the zoology of the Royal Indian marine surveying steamer Investigator Part 2: Pls. 8–13. [Description published in 1889, illustration in 1894.]

***Fenestraja atripinna* (Bigelow & Schroeder 1950)** *atri-*, from *ater* (L.), black; *pinna* (L.), fin, referring to its “sooty black” dorsal fins

***Fenestraja cubensis* (Bigelow & Schroeder 1950)** *-ensis* (L.), suffix denoting place: Cuba (north-central coast), type locality

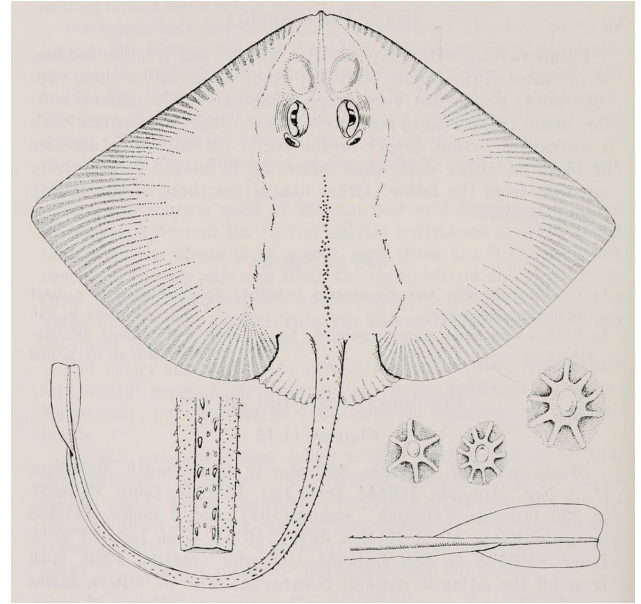
***Fenestraja ishiyamai* (Bigelow & Schroeder 1962)** in honor of Japanese ichthyologist Reizo Ishiyama (1912–2008), Shimonoseki College of Fisheries, for his work on Japanese batoids

***Fenestraja maceachrani* (Séret 1989)** in honor of American ichthyologist John D. McEachran (b. 1941, note Latinization of “Mc” to “Mac”), Texas A&M University (Texas, USA), for his major contributions to skate and ray systematics

***Fenestraja mamillidens* (Alcock 1889)** *mamillaris* (Late Latin), resembling a breast or nipple; *dens* (L.), tooth, referring to how each tooth has a “broad globular base and a gently pointed mamillary summit”

***Fenestraja plutonia* (Garman 1881)** *plutonian* (L.), dark, dusky or gloomy, characteristics associated with Greek god Pluto and the underworld, referring to brown-grayish or purplish coloration with irregular “indistinctly defined” spots of brown

***Fenestraja sibogae* (Weber 1913)** in honor of the ship *Siboga* and Indonesian expedition (1898–1899) of same name, during which holotype was collected



*Gurgesiella atlantica*, holotype, female, 450 mm TL. Illustration by E. N. Fischer. From: Bigelow, H. B. and W. C. Schroeder. 1962. New and little known batoid fishes from the Western Atlantic. Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology 128 (4): 161–244, Pl. 1.

***Fenestraja sinuamexicanus* (Bigelow & Schroeder 1950)** *-anus* (L.), belonging to: *sinus* (L.), gulf or bay, referring to Gulf of Mexico, type locality

### ***Gurgesiella*** **de Buen 1959**

etymology not explained, possibly *-ella* (L.), a diminutive suffix, and *gurgis* (L.), abyss, referring to deepwater habitat of *G. furvescens*

***Gurgesiella atlantica* (Bigelow & Schroeder 1962)** *-ica* (L.), belonging to: Atlantic coast of Nicaragua to the “offing” of the Amazon River

***Gurgesiella dorsalifera* McEachran & Compagno 1980** *dorsalis* (L.), of the back; *-fera* (L.), to carry or bear, the only species of *Gurgesiella* with a dorsal fin

***Gurgesiella furvescens* de Buen 1959** Latin for growing dark (i.e., blackish), probably referring to dusky, dark coffee (“café obscuro”) coloration