

Order MYLIOBATIFORMES

Round Stingrays or Stingarees

Family **UROLOPHIDAE**

Müller & Henle 1841



Trygonopectera imitata, holotype, adult male, 613 mm TL, dorsal (left) and ventral (right) views. From: Yearsley, G. K., P. R. Last and M. F. Gomon. 2008. *Trygonopectera imitata* sp. nov., a new stingaree (Myliobatoidei: Urolophidae) from southeastern Australia. In: Descriptions of new Australian Chondrichthyans. CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research Paper No. 022: 261–267.

Spinilophus

Yearsley & Last 2016

spina (L.), thorn or spine, referring to thorns, spinules and dermal denticles on dorsal surface; *lophus*, shortening of *Urolophus* (original genus)

***Spinilophus armatus* (Valenciennes 1841)** Latin for armed with a weapon, referring to thorns, spinules and dermal denticles on dorsal surface [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes' description]

Trygonopectera

Müller & Henle 1841

trygōn (Gr. τρυγών), stingray, originating from *ptéryx* (Gr. πτέρυξ), wing¹, referring to the wing-like resemblance (and flying-like movement) of their pectoral fins; *ptera*, from *pterón* (Gr. πτερόν) or *ptéryx* (πτέρυξ), fin, possibly referring to small dorsal fin on tail of *T. testacea*

***Trygonopectera galba* Last & Yearsley 2008** Latin for yellow, referring to its “distinctive” dorsal coloration

***Trygonopectera imitata* Yearsley, Last & Gomon 2008** Latin for copied

¹ Le Feuvre, C. 2011. Gr. τρυγών ‘1. turtledove; 2. stingray (fish)’: one word or two words? *Studia Etymologica Cracoviensia* 16 (1): 23–31. Some references say *trygōn* means turtle dove. Le Feuvre presents evidence that *trygōn* was originally two distinct words, meaning both stingray and turtle dove, that merged into one through the vicissitudes of phonological change; the semantic link between the two animals is accidental.

or mimicked, referring to its similarity to *T. mucosa* and *T. testacea* and subsequent confusion over its identification

***Trygonopectera mucosa* (Whitley 1939)** Latin for slimy, referring to its “extremely slimy” back

***Trygonopectera ovalis* Last & Gomon 1987** Latin for oval, referring to its nearly oval disc

***Trygonopectera personata* Last & Gomon 1987** Latin for masked, referring to continuous dark mask-like markings around and between eyes

***Trygonopectera testacea* Müller & Henle 1841** Latin for brick-like, referring to pale brick-like color of dorsal surface

Urolophus

Müller & Henle 1837

uro, from *ourá* (Gr. οὐρά), tail; *lophus*, from *lóphos* (Gr. λόφος), mane, crest or tuft, presumably referring to rayed caudal fin of *U. cruciatus*, i.e., “a fin at the tip of the tail” (translation)

***Urolophus aurantiacus* Müller & Henle 1841** Latin for orange-colored, referring to dark-orange coloration of upper surface

***Urolophus bucculentus* Macleay 1884** Latin for full-cheeked, referring to size of mouth, which is more than three times larger proportionally



Spinilophus armatus, holotype, male, 174 mm TL. Photo © Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris).

to size of ray than in *Trygonoptera testacea*

***Urolophus circularis* McKay 1966** Latin for round, referring to its almost circular disc

***Urolophus cruciatus* (Lacepède 1804)** Latin for cruciform, referring to cross-like pattern of stripes and crossbars on dorsal surface

***Urolophus deforgesii* Séret & Last 2003** in honor of French carcinologist Bertrand Richer de Forges (b. 1948), Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, for promoting the exploration of the bathyal fauna off New Caledonia and for collecting valuable fish specimens from cruise surveys

***Urolophus expansus* McCulloch 1916** Latin for expanded, referring to its broad disc

***Urolophus flavomosaicus* Last & Gomon 1987** *flavus* (L.), yellow, referring to yellowish dorsal surface; *mosaicus*, from *mosaicus* (L.), referring to mosaic pattern of large, whitish spots encircled by rings

***Urolophus gigas* Scott 1954** *gigas* (Gr. γίγας), giant, allusion not explained, probably referring to its large size (second largest *Urolophus* in Australia) and/or its large spiracles

***Urolophus javanicus* (Martens 1864)** *-icus* (L.), belonging to: Java, Indonesia, type locality

***Urolophus kaianus* Günther 1880** *-anus* (L.), belonging to: Kai Islands, Indonesia, Arafura Sea, type locality

***Urolophus kapalensis* Yearsley & Last 2006** *-ensis*, Latin suffix usually denoting place but in this case honoring the fisheries research vessel *Kapala* (formerly of the N.S.W. Fisheries Research Institute, Australia), from which holotype was collected, in honor of the “extremely valuable fish collections made by the vessel over almost three decades”

***Urolophus lobatus* McKay 1966** Latin for lobed, referring to prominent lobes on front borders of internasal flap

***Urolophus mitosis* Last & Gomon 1987** term for biological process in which a single cell divides into two identical daughter cells, referring to granular blotches on dorsal surface, which resemble living cells in the process of mitotic division

***Urolophus neocaledoniensis* Séret & Last 2003** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: New Caledonia, where it appears to be the most abundant and widely distributed “stingaree” in the region

***Urolophus orarius* Last & Gomon 1987** Latin for “of the coast,” referring to its distribution along the eastern Great Australian Bight, between Ceduna and Beachport, at depths of 20–50 m

***Urolophus papilio* Séret & Last 2003** Latin for butterfly, referring to the particularly broad “wingspan” of its disc

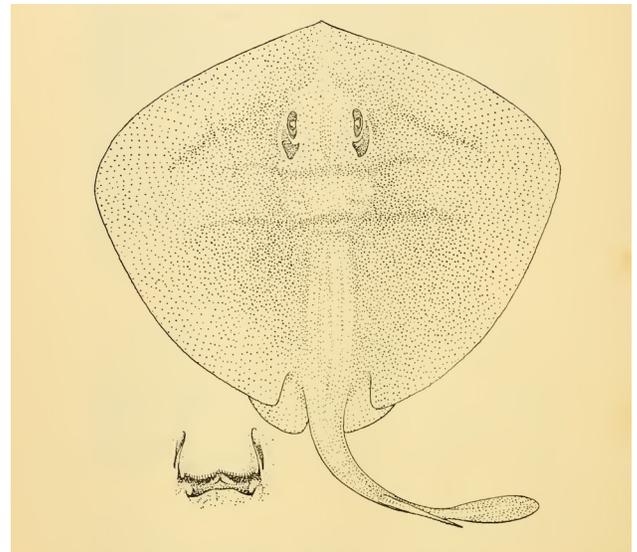
***Urolophus paucimaculatus* Dixon 1969** *paucus* (L.), few; *maculatus* (L.), spotted, referring to a few small white spots that sometimes appear on pectoral fins

***Urolophus piperatus* Séret & Last 2003** Latin for peppered, referring to dark flecks scattered on dorsal surface

***Urolophus sufflavus* Whitley 1929** Latin for yellowish, referring to uniform yellow-brown color of dorsal surface

***Urolophus viridis* McCulloch 1916** Latin for green, referring to uniform light-green color of dorsal surface

***Urolophus westraliensis* Last & Gomon 1987** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Western Australia, specifically northwestern Australia, where it occurs on outer continental shelf



Urolophus expansus, 190 mm wide. From: McCulloch, A. R. 1916. Report on some fishes obtained by the F. I. S. “Endeavour” on the coasts of Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South and South-Western Australia. Part IV. Biological Results Endeavour 4 (4): 169–199, Pls. 49–58.