

Description

The Undulate Ray has broadly rounded pectoral fins¹. The front edge of the disc is wave-like². This species has a row/rows of thorns along its midline³ - some specimens also have thorns between dorsal fins⁴.

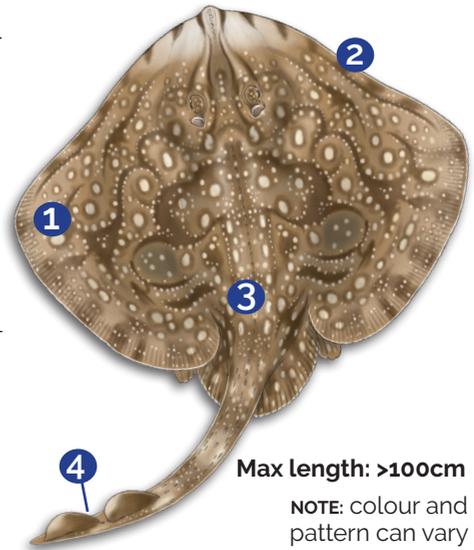
The topside of the ray is light yellow-black in colour with dark wavy bands bordered by rows of white spots. The underside is white with darker margins.

Best practice advice

A small bycatch quota is currently available. The goal is to ensure effective long-term management of this species and improve scientific information.

The Undulate Ray should not be targeted. In addition to the mandatory requirements detailed in the fishing authorisation, it is suggested that this best practice advice be followed:

- ❑ **Handle with care.** Undulate Rays should be removed carefully from fishing gear to avoid being dropped on the deck.
- ❑ **Extra care should be taken when handling pregnant females.** Due to Undulate Rays' low reproductive rate it is recommended that pregnant females are not landed and that they are carefully returned to the sea for the long-term benefit of the species.
- ❑ **Endeavour to retain dead bycatch and return live specimens to the sea.** This could reduce overall fishing mortality and support the recovery of the species.
- ❑ **Lift the ray by holding it at the mouth and base of the tail.** Dragging or holding a ray solely by the tail can easily damage the animal.
- ❑ **Do not return by foot through the vessel's scuppers.** When releasing the ray, place it in the sea or gently slide it head first from as low a height as safely possible.
- ❑ **If returning the ray to the sea, do so as quickly as possible,** preferably while sorting the catch.



Max length: >100cm

NOTE: colour and pattern can vary

Look-alike species

Small-eyed Ray
Raja microocellata

Has light bands running **parallel** to margins of disc.



Max length:
90cm