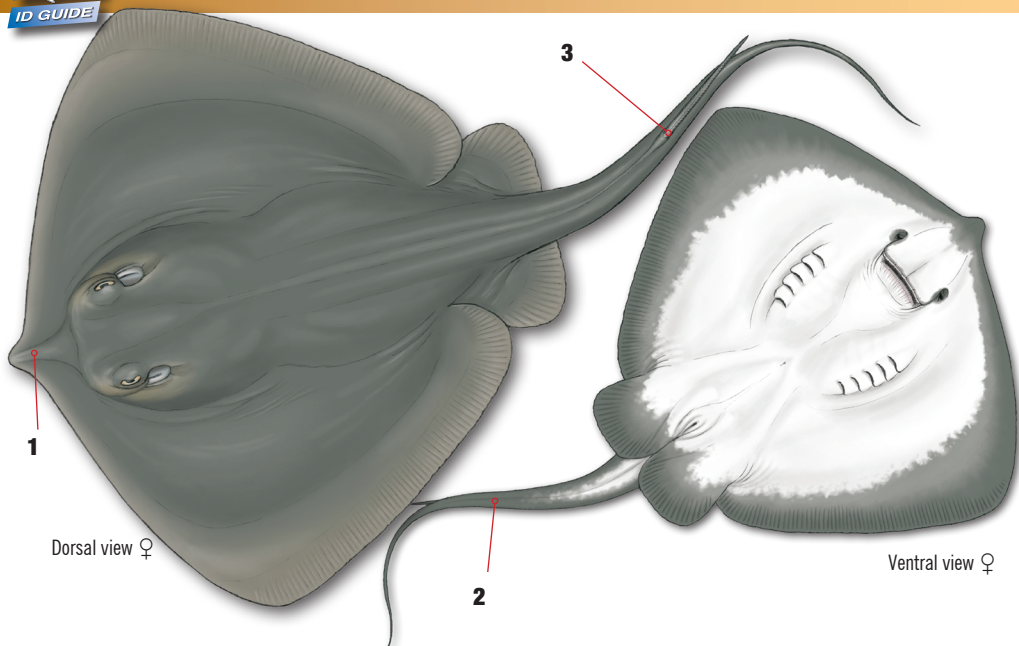


Common Stingray

Dasyatis pastinaca



Dorsal view ♀

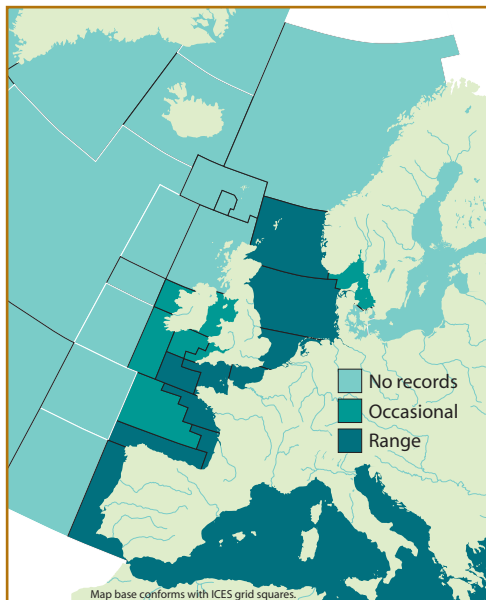
Ventral view ♀

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Dasyatis pastinaca (Linnaeus 1758).

DISTRIBUTION

Southern Norway to the northern Mediterranean^{viii} including the western Balticⁱⁱⁱ and the Black Sea^x.



COMMON NAME

COMMON STINGRAY, Blue Stingray, Fire Flaire, Pastenague Commune (Fr), Raya Latigo Comun (Es), Stechroche (De), Pastinaca (It), Uge (Pr), Pijlstaartrog (Ne).

IDENTIFICATION

- 1 Short snout with straight leading edges of disc.
- 2 Long, thin tail up to 1.5 times the length of the body^{vi}.
- 3 Spine on tail up to 12cm long with 74 ♀–98 ♂ serrations^{vi}.

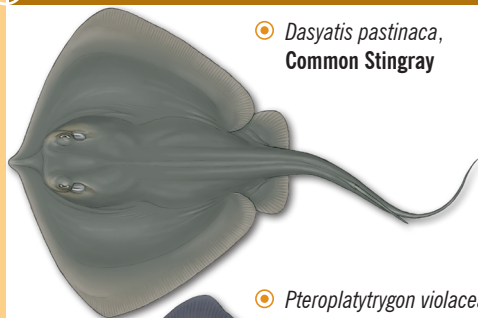
COLOUR

- Dorsal surface uniform dark brown to olive.
- Ventral surface white with dark margins^{vi}.

BIOLOGY AND SIZE

- Mature: 46cm ♀, 43cm ♂^v. Max TL: 250cm, DW: 60cmⁱ.
- Give birth in shallow waters to 4–7 young^{iv}.
- Feed predominantly on crustaceans^v with some small fish and molluscs^{vi}.

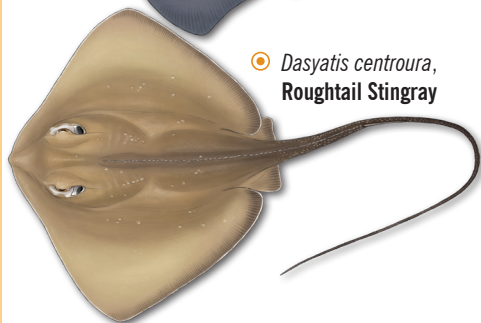
SIMILAR SPECIES



○ *Dasyatis pastinaca*,
Common Stingray



○ *Pteroplatytrygon violacea*,
Pelagic Stingray



○ *Dasyatis centroura*,
Roughtail Stingray

○ *Dasyatis tortonesi*, Tortonese's Stingray
(not illustrated).

HABITAT

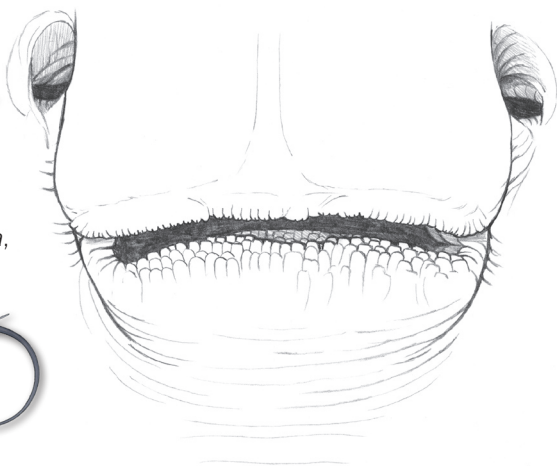
- From shallows to 200m.
- Most common to 60m.
- Found over soft substrates such as sand and mud^{viii}.

CONSERVATION STATUS

- Very few data. Appears to be rare in northeast Atlantic and has declined in the Bay of Biscay. Stable in the Mediterraneanⁱⁱ.
- **Red List status:** Data Deficient (2008). Near Threatened in northeast Atlantic.

TEETH

- 28–43 rows^{ix}.



COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE

- No targeted fishery but taken as bycatch in trawl, longline, trammel net and rod and line fisheries. Often discardedⁱⁱ.
- Wings are sold smoked and dried-salted for human consumption, liver for oil and carcass for fishmeal^{vi}.

HANDLING AND THORN ARRANGEMENT

- Handle with care.
- Large venomous spine on tail.
- In extreme cases can cause paralysis^{vi}.

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