Order RAJIFORMES

Leg Skates or Pygmy Skates

Family GURGESIELLIDAE

de Buen 1959

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**Cruriraja**
Bigelow & Schroeder 1948

curu[s] (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 ich-
thyologist 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 pre-
sumed congener at the time

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

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

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

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