Order RAJIFORMES
Leg Skates or Pygmy Skates
Family GURGESIELLIDAE
de Buen 1959

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

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)
**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

---

**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

**Gurgesiella de Buen 1959**

etymology not explained, possibly *-ella* (L.), a diminutive suffix, and *gurges* (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