Order LAMNIFORMES

Ragged-Tooth Sharks

Family **ODONTASPIDIDAE**
Müller & Henle 1839

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**Odontaspis**

Agassiz 1838

etymology not explained, presumably odontos, Latinized and grammatically adjusted from the Greek nominative ὀδούς (oðous), and aspis (Gr. ἀσπίς), shield, perhaps referring to how teeth comprise a prominent narrow cusp provided with two or more small “side teeth” (translation), i.e., cusplets, which, with some imagination, could be said to “shield” the main cusp; another explanation is that aspis means asp, perhaps referring to outwardly pointing teeth of *O. ferox*, like those of an asp or viper

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**Odontaspis ferox** (Risso 1810) Latin for fierce, possibly referring to what Risso described as its “La voracité extrême” and/or its toothy and ferocious countenance

**Odontaspis noronhai** (Maul 1955) in honor of Adolfo César de Noronha (1873–1963), late director of the Funchal Museum (Madeira), where holotype is housed