

Narcine

Classification

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Chondrichthyes
Subclass: Elasmobranchii
Order: Torpediniformes
Family: Narcinidae
Genus: *Narcine*



For further details [link](#)

Habit and habitat

Bottom-dweller: *Narcine* rays are benthic, meaning they live on the ocean floor.

Slow-moving: They are generally sluggish and slow-moving, making them susceptible to being caught by trawling.

Soft Substrates: *Narcine* rays prefer habitats with soft sandy or muddy bottoms, where they can hide and ambush prey.

Continental Shelves: They inhabit the continental shelves of oceans.

Coastal and Shallow Waters: Many species are found in shallow, inshore, and coastal waters.

Characteristics

- They are small to moderate sized, reaching no more than about 45 cm (1.48 ft) in total length. The shape of their body is an oval shape, with two dorsal fins that are around the same size,
- The caudal fin is shaped like a triangle and there is no spine on the caudal fin on this ray, unlike some other species. On the dorsal side of their body they have a brown coloration and a white coloration on their ventral side.
- They have more of an elongated/protruding body size, they aren't very short or rounded, this helps to differentiate them from other ray species.
- The jaw arch, which consist of the lower and upper jaw, moves as a unit, this allows for them to create suction in order to feed and capture prey hiding in the sand or mud substrate.
- They have an electroreceptor system located on the ventral part of their body that is sensitive to low frequency, they use this in order to search for prey.
- While the females reach a larger overall size than males, features such as the eyes, mouth, and nostrils are larger in males.
- The tails on males are longer than females' tails because the posterior region of the body develops at a faster rate than the total length. The larger sizes of females helps with the nourishment of the embryos.
- Since they are born live, as they are developing inside the womb, each individual ray (or pup) has a yolk-sac which they use for obtaining nutrients as they are growing in the womb.
- Since males are generally smaller in size than females, they also mature sexually at smaller sizes compared to females. Most pregnancy in females occurs in the summer and the autumn, and pre-ovulatory periods in females occurred in the winter.