

XXXVIII A NEW STING RAY OF THE
GENUS *TRYGON* FROM THE BAY OF
BENGAL

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Among the Selachians recently captured by the Bengal Government's trawler "Golden Crown" is a large specimen of a species of Sting Ray which does not appear to have been as yet described. It may be defined as follows :—

Trygon microps, sp. nov.

Size large. *Colour* white ; the dorsal surface of the disk suffused with rose-pink, without definite markings ; tail grey above, becoming darker distally. *Disk* rhombic, wider than long by more than one quarter of the width ; the pectoral angles rather greater than right angles. *Snout* rounded as a whole, but with a small terminal projection. *Eyes* very small, dark in colour, little prominent ; spiracles large, without dorsal flaps, their area more than eight times that of the eyes ; distance from eyes to tip of snout more than twice as great as that from eye to eye. *Tail* without cutaneous fins, longer than disk, consisting of a broad, flat proximal part about half as long as the disk, and a slender, cylindrical distal part probably longer in unmutilated specimens, a single massive spine borne at the junction of the two parts ; a very low ridge on the ventral surface of the distal part. *Skin* soft and delicate, without enlarged tubercles on the disk, bearing numerous minute, spiny denticles, which become rather larger on the tip of the snout and the region surrounding the eyes and spiracles ; proximal part of the tail armed with much larger spiny denticles, which are largest on the sides and only bear very short spines on the ventral surface ; distal part densely clothed with denticles similar to but smaller than those on the sides of the proximal part. *Mouth* large ; upper jaw undulating slightly, lower jaw practically without undulation ; a serrated cutaneous flap hanging down from the roof of the mouth ; five short finger-like processes on the floor of the mouth, three in the centre and one at either side.

Measurements of the type specimen (♀).

Length of disk	4 ft. 7 inches (137 cm.)
Breadth of disk	6 ,, 6 ,, (195 ,,)
Length of tail (? mutilated)	6 ,, 5 ,, (192 ,,)

Habitat.—Coast of Chittagong, head of the Bay of Bengal ; shallow water (17 fathoms). Captured at the end of August, 1908.

Only one specimen has as yet been taken. It represents a form very distinct from any hitherto fully described, but may be identical with Blyth's *Trygon atrocissimus*, a species described from pieces of a tail and therefore impossible to recognize, especially as the "type" appears to have perished. Although the specimen of *T. microps* was taken in shallow water, its pale colour, small eyes and delicate skin would suggest that it is really a deep-sea form.

