



EXPLANATION OF FIGURE

1. Female from Malta. Width of disc 198 mm.

**DIAGNOSIS** — *Disc*: length 46 to 47 per cent. and width 50 to 51 per cent. in total length of fish; anterior margin almost straight or slightly undulated; outer angle rounded. *Snout* projects strongly as an acutely pointed process, rounded at tip; its length 4.1 to 4.3 times in width of disc and 4.3 to 4.5 times the interorbital width which is less than the longitudinal diameter of the eye. *Praecoral* length about 2.3 times the internasal width. *Teeth* with round basal collar and pointed cusp: 56 to 58 rows in upper jaw. *Upper surface* entirely spinulose except for a bare patch in middle of disc. Spinulae stronger on anterior margin of disc. A few spines on the tip of the snout and a more or less complete supraorbital series. A median series of 4 nuchal spines; none on the sides of the shoulder. Median body and tail spines absent except a few small ones immediately in front of the dorsal fins. Dorsals separate. Tail with 2 or more lateral rows of recurved spines continued on to the posterior half of the body. Colour uniform light

brown with a large marbled ocellus and 3 or 4 dark brown spots with yellow centre on the disc and 1 or 2 on the pelvics. *Lower surface* with a narrow border of asperities extending along the anterior margin of disc half way to the outer angle. Body and tail otherwise smooth. Colour white except for brownish touches on the distal part of the tail and on the tip of the snout. Described from 2 females from Malta, total length 38 and 39 cm. Life-history not known.

**DISTRIBUTION** — Mediterranean- so far, known only from Malta where the species occurs in shallow depths.

#### LITERATURE

1926. — CLARK, R. S. Rays and Skates. A revision of the European Species. *Fisheries, Scotland, Sci. Invest.*, 1926, I.

R. S. CLARK 1931.