



EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

1. Adult female from Butt of Lewis. Width of disc 327 mm.
2. Egg capsule. Length (Without horns) 61 mm. Width 36 mm.
3. Teeth of adult female.

DIAGNOSIS -- A small species reaches a length of 700 mm. *Disc* - width greater than length; anterior margin strongly undulated; outer angle rounded. Snout projects slightly as a pointed process, its length five to six times in width of disc and about three times the interorbital width which is more than half the longitudinal diameter of the eye. Vent nearer tip of snout than end of tail. Praeorall length about twice the internasal width. *Teeth* small, pointed in both sexes, 54 to 60 rows in upper jaw. *Upper surface* almost entirely spinulose, usually a bare patch on middle of each pectoral. Rostrum, interorbit and anterior margin of disc more strongly spinulose. A few small spines on tip of rostrum. Inner orbital ridge with a complete row of spines, those in the middle being

slightly reduced in size. A triangular patch of spines on the shoulder. Median body and tail spines present in young but entirely absent in adults. Two parallel rows of hooked spines on each side of the tail, the inner row sometimes continued on the body almost to the shoulder. Males with 2-3 alar and 3-4 malar rows of spines. Dorsals closely set. Colour light fawn to greyish brown, with a large black and yellow marbled ocellus on each pectoral. A few irregularly shaped dark spots near the eyes and a few large white patches on the disc and pelvics. *Lower surface* with a narrow border of spinulae on the snout extending along the anterior margin of the disc half way to the outer angle. Disc otherwise smooth. Tail rough. Colour white. *Egg capsule* small, biconvex, smooth, transparent amber to brown coloured. Range in length (without horns) 59 to 67 mm. and in breadth 34 to 41 mm. Ripe females observed during most months of the year, but chiefly during the spring months. Period of incubation of the embryo about eight months.

DISTRIBUTION — Coastal, in shallow to moderate depths. Atlantic coast of Europe from Portugal to the Shetlands. Enters the Mediterranean, English Channel, Irish Sea, Southern and Northern North Sea. No records from the Norwegian coast but penetrates the southern Skagerak to the Swedish coast.

COMMON NAMES — British, Cuckoo Ray; French, Raie fleurie; German Kuckucksroche.

SYNONYMY — *R. miraletus* Couch. 1862. *R. circularis* Sim. 1902. *R. miratetus* Le Danois. 1913 (non. syn.)

LITERATURE

1841. — MÜLLER AND HENLE. System. Beschreibung der Plagiostomen. Berlin.
1924. — LÖNNBERG, E. En för Sveriges ny Rocka. *Fauna och Flora. Ht. 5. Upsala.*
1922. — CLARK R. S. Rays and Skates - Egg Capsules and Young. *Journ. Mar. Biol. Assoc., Vol. XII, No 4.*
1926. — CLARK, R. S. Rays and Skates. *Fisheries Scotland, Sci. Invest. 1926 1.*
1928. — REY, L. LOZANO. Fauna Iberica Peces. Tomo primero. *Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales Madrid.*

R. S. CLARK 1930.