

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?



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MARbled ELECTRIC RAY



This is one of at least 17 species in which the body is a round disc with a small, rounded tail. The muscles of the pectoral fins (wings) are modified to generate electrical discharges of up to 50 V with an output of close to 1 kW (note that these stats are not specific to this species, but the group as a whole). These electrical discharges are used to stun slow-moving fish by swimming up to and enveloping the prey; this is usually at night, while during the day they are ambush predators hiding, partially buried in the sand, often in caves on shallow reefs.

Because the pectoral fins are modified to provide the electrical discharges, these rays, unlike all the others utilise their tails for propulsion.

Scientific Name:	<i>Torpedo sinuspersici</i>
AKA:	Marbled Electric Ray/Persian Gulf Torpedo
Ocean Hang out:	Indian Ocean, on the seabed
Warm/Cool Waters:	Warm
Diet:	Small fish
Slow/ Fast:	Slow, generally rests on the seabed
S/ M/ L/ XL/ XXL:	S
Shy/ Bold:	Shy
At the beach/ In the sea: (Inhabits coastal or oceanic waters)	At the beach, inshore, confined to continental shelf
Local/ International: (Endemic/ Non-native)	International, throughout the W Indian Ocean
Nomadic/ Homely: (Migratory or resident)	Homely
Social/ Anti-social: (Normally found in groups or solitary)	Anti-social
Black Tie/ Eccentric: (Easily recognisable as a shark or ray or has a unique appearance)	Black Tie
Teeth:	Many rows of small, pointed teeth
Best Feature:	Hunts using electric shocks to stun its prey and does not have a stinger on its tail like other rays
Red Listing:	Data Deficient (2019-3 Red List update)