

## Estimation of biological parameters of the Dwarf round ray, *Urotrygon nana* Mikaye & McEachran, 1988 off the Mexican Pacific

N.I. Améstica, A.B. Guzmán-Castellanos & F.J. Concha

Laboratory of Biology and Conservation of Chondrichthyes, Department of Marine Sciences and Natural Resources, Universidad de Valparaíso, Chile.

Some of the most common benthic elasmobranchs off the coasts of the Mexican Pacific, particularly off the Gulf of Tehuantepec, are the rounded stingrays (Urotrygonidae). These rays have a flat body, with the mouth in ventral position, a rounded disc, and a caudal spine. In total, seven species of the genus *Urotrygon* have been reported to inhabit the coasts of Mexico. These species feed from benthic preys, mostly small crustaceans and mollusks, and they also mate and breed on the sea floor. Different species of *Urotrygon* have been reported to be part of the bycatch of the bottom trawl shrimp fishery, the most important fishery in the Gulf of Tehuantepec, and many aspects of their biology still remain uncertain. Our work focuses on the Dwarf round ray *Urotrygon nana*, and the aim of this work is to determine different biological parameters such as size, weight, and sexual proportion, and its variations throughout a year in the Gulf of Tehuantepec. We will analyze data taken from the shrimp fishery occurring in this area.