

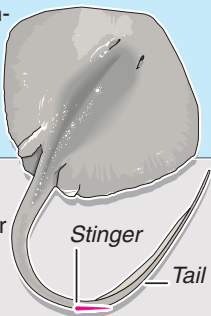
"Croc hunter" dies

Steve Irwin, the ebullient Australian TV personality and conservationist, has been killed by a stingray barb to the heart during a diving expedition



Stingray: Bottom-dwelling flat fish, usually passive but can inflict deadly wound if hurt or frightened

Barbed stinger
Barbs lacerate flesh, then stinger injects intensely painful toxin from grooves on tail



Stinger may be up to 20cm long