

*Luidia alternata* (Say, 1825)

Class Asteroidea  
Order Paxillosida  
Family Luidiidae

Classification according to Clark and Downey (1992)  
References used: Clark and Downey (1992)

**Diagnostic characters:** Five-armed starfish, skeleton not compact; paxillae small, high and well separated; color distinctive, specimens blotched or banded in creamy white and black or brown.

**Habitat:** Coastal/shelf species occurring in depths from 1 to 200 meters.

**Range:** North Carolina through the Gulf of Mexico to northern Argentina.



*Luidia clathrata* (Say, 1825)

Class Asteroidea  
Order Paxillosida  
Family Luidiidae

Classification according to Clark and Downey (1992)  
References used: Clark and Downey (1992)

**Diagnostic characters:** Five-armed starfish with compact skeleton; paxillae are square, in regular longitudinal and transverse rows except on midregion of arms and disc; specimens are usually gray with a darker gray stripe down the middle of the arm; **some specimens cream, white or brown with dark stripe down middle of arm.**

**Habitat:** Coastal/shelf species occurring in depths from 2 to 74 meters.

**Range:** Chesapeake Bay through the Gulf of Mexico to southern Brazil; Bermuda.

