

Tiger Sharks

Tiger shark teeth are common in the fossil marine sediments of Florida and throughout the world. Teeth from Tiger sharks are unique in their shape and similar in both upper and lower jaws. Curved back and notched with serrations, these teeth are used for cutting through prey. Teeth from 8 species of Tiger Sharks can be found in our State.



Symphyseal teeth or "button" teeth, they are from the front center of the jaw.

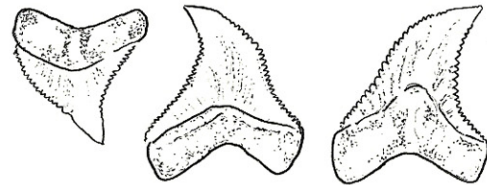


Posterior teeth, Back teeth in the jaw of the shark, progressively smaller to the back.



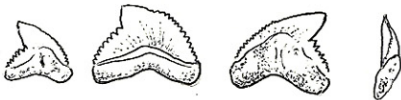
Galeocerdo latidens

Extinct Tiger shark, Eocene to Oligocene. Most teeth found to have a nearly straight mesial crown. Serrations are small. Tip has no serrations.



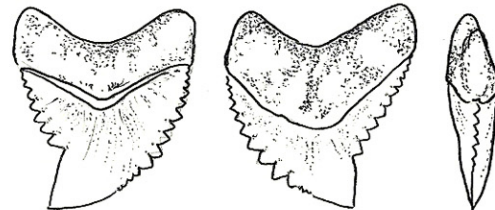
Galeocerdo eaglesomei

Mid-Eocene. These are extremely rare and look a lot like *Hemipristis serra*. Medium serrations to tip of crown. (Westgate 1989)



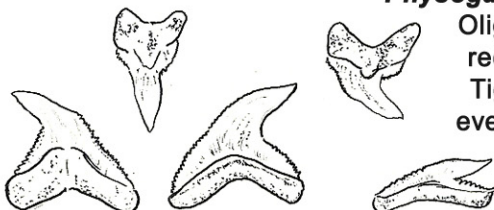
Galeocerdo articus

Eocene to early Oligocene. Teeth are small, slender, finely serrated. Renamed to *G. alabamensis* (Tessman 1969). Another Tiger shark recorded in this time frame is *G. clarkensis*, but it is unclear how many species are valid.



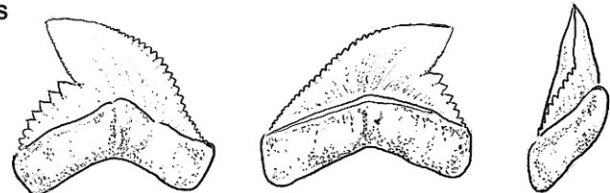
Galeocerdo mayumbensis

Mid-Miocene. Extinct Tiger shark with large, robust serrations. One of the larger Tiger sharks.



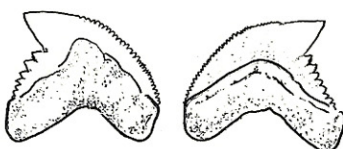
Physogaleus contortus

Oligocene to Miocene. Most recognizable of the extinct Tigers. Teeth are slender, evenly serrated, and crowns often twist to the side.



Galeocerdo cuvieri

Miocene to Recent. Modern Tiger shark. Serrations are coarse, small to large. Thick, robust teeth and roots. Common Tiger shark found throughout the State.



Galeocerdo aduncus

Oligocene to Miocene. Teeth are highly arched, compressed, and with complex serrations.

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