

**THE CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SCIENCE,
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, NR33 0HT.**

2008 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: RV ENDEAVOUR: SURVEY 14/08

STAFF:

G Course (SIC)

S Warne (2IC)

J Ashworth

M Eade

M Brown

M Etherton

M Sherlock

Plus 2 Students from Exeter University to be confirmed at a later date

DURATION:

18th July – 1st August 2008

LOCALITY:

North Sea (IVc), English Channel (VIId).

AIMS:

1. To undertake a beam trawl survey in the southern North Sea and eastern Channel as part of an ICES co-ordinated research programme.
2. To obtain fisheries independent data on the distribution and abundance of commercial flatfish species.
3. To collect biological data, including maturity and weight at age, of commercial species.
4. To derive age compositions of commercial flatfish, whilst at sea, for use in stock assessment.
5. To carry out sampling to satisfy the requirements of the EU data regulations.
6. To identify the epibenthos by-catch taken in the 4-metre beam trawl and to quantify 12 species as agreed at the Beam Trawl Working Group.
7. To carry out detailed survey of sole distribution in selected areas of VIId and IVc.

PLAN:

Scientists to join the Endeavour in Lowestoft at 0700 on the morning of the 18th July. The Endeavour will sail from Lowestoft on the morning tide of 18th July after the gear is loaded, checked and rigged. Sampling will commence in the English sector of the North Sea IVc. Shakedown tows will be carried out before the start of the survey to ensure all systems working. Sampling will continue southwards, along the Eastern English coastline, until about 22nd July. The vessel will then continue westwards along the English sector of the Eastern English Channel VIId. On completion of this sector it will proceed to the western end of the French sector and survey eastwards. On completion of the VIId survey, and if time permits, stations off the Belgian coast will be fished. On completion of the survey the vessel will dock in Lowestoft, on or around the morning of the 1st August.

G Course
11/06/2008

INITIALLED:
BH

DISTRIBUTION:
Basic list +
Cruise staff
Fishing Skipper Corystes
W Demare, Belgium
Frans v Beek, Netherlands
Joel Vigneau, France
Kent and Essex, Sussex, Southern SFCs
DARD Northern Ireland