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FRV *Clupea*

Cruise 0706C

REPORT

23 May – 12 June 2006

Ports

Loading: 23 May, Fraserburgh
Half Landing: Flexible, Fraserburgh
Unloading: 12 June, Fraserburgh

Personnel

T Howell In charge (2-12 June)^
S Davis In charge (23-31 May)^
N Brown (23 May – 12 June)

^Dates dependent on half-landing

Fishing Gear: Scallop dredges

Costs to Project: 20 days MO1TA

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks in the North Sea.

2. To collect information on by-catches of other commercial fish and shellfish species.

3. To collect biological data on scallop ring measurements.

4. To collect *Galathea* sp. samples for DNA testing.

Narrative

The scientific staff joined FRV *Clupea* at 0930 hours on 23 May and sailed from Fraserburgh at just before midday. Sampling began to the Northeast of Fraserburgh shortly afterwards and *Clupea* continued to cover the North East management area grounds over the following 6 days. Bad weather prevented work on 30 May and it was decided to bring the half landing forward to the 31 May, thus several Moray Firth stations were missed. The survey recommenced on 1 June with *Clupea* crossing into the East Coast management area grounds where she continued sampling completing all the stations by 7 June. Thereafter *Clupea* returned to the north east management area grounds picking up stations missed during the period of bad weather during the first half of the cruise. On 11 June a depletion experiment was carried out to the north of Gardenstown before *Clupea* returned to Fraserburgh completing the cruise.

Results

During the trip 128 dredge hauls were made and a total of 8736 scallops were caught. The position of each haul is shown in Figure 1. Catch rates varied from a minimum of 0.hr.m to a maximum of 116 hrm. The aggregate catch rates for each statistical rectangle, expressed in numbers per hour per metre width by age, are shown in Figure 2. The individual graph headings in Figure 2 show the overall catch rate for each statistical rectangle. The length frequencies in numbers caught per half centimetre length category are shown in Figure 3. The individual graph headings in Figure 3 show the percentage of scallops less than 100 mm for each statistical rectangle. The numbers of each by-catch species caught is given in Table 1.

T Howell
18 July 2006

Seen in draft: A Simpson, OIC *Clupea*

Table 1

SPECIES	NUMBER CAUGHT
Aequipecten opercularis	474
Arctica Islandica	3
Buccinum undatum	89
Cancer pagurus M	39
Cancer pagurus F	31
Cancer pagurus B	4
Cancer pagurus(count)	4
Limanda limanda	25
Hippoglossoides paeltssoides	13
Callionymus lyra	4
Eutrigla gurnardus	2
Aspitrigla cuculus	1
Homarus gammaus	1
Lithodes maja M	22
Lithodes maja F	9
Lithodes maja B	14
Lophius piscatorius	42
Microstumus kitt	19
Necora puber M	4
Necora puber F	6
Necora puber B	6
Neptunea antiqua	411
Pleuronectes platessa	43
Raja clavata M	2
Raja clavata F	1
Raja naevus M	18
Raja naevus F	20
Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis	4
Myoxocephalus scorpius	9
Phrynorhombus norvegicus	1
Glyptocephalus cynoglossus	1

Figure 1 East Coast Scallop Survey 2006

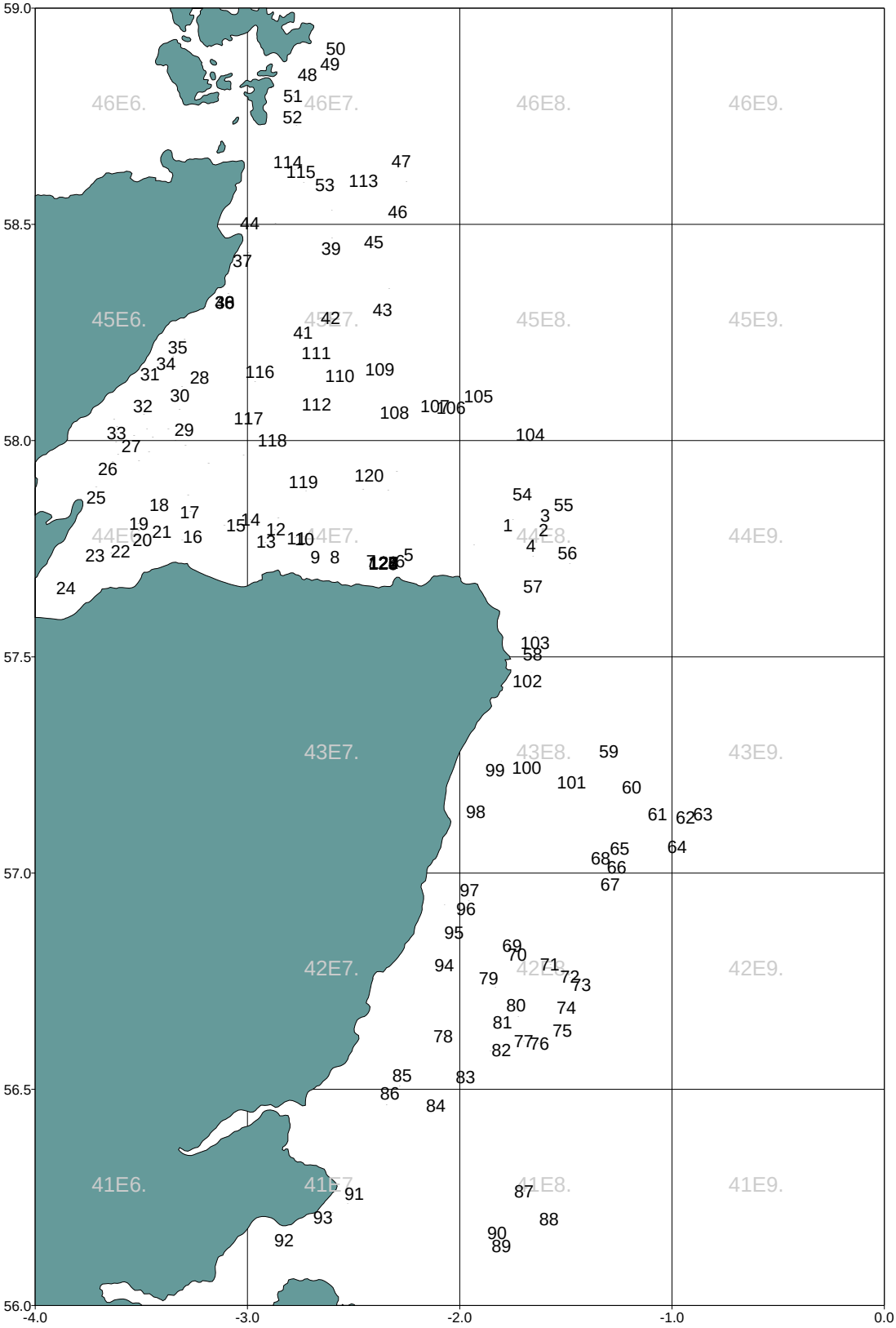


Figure 2

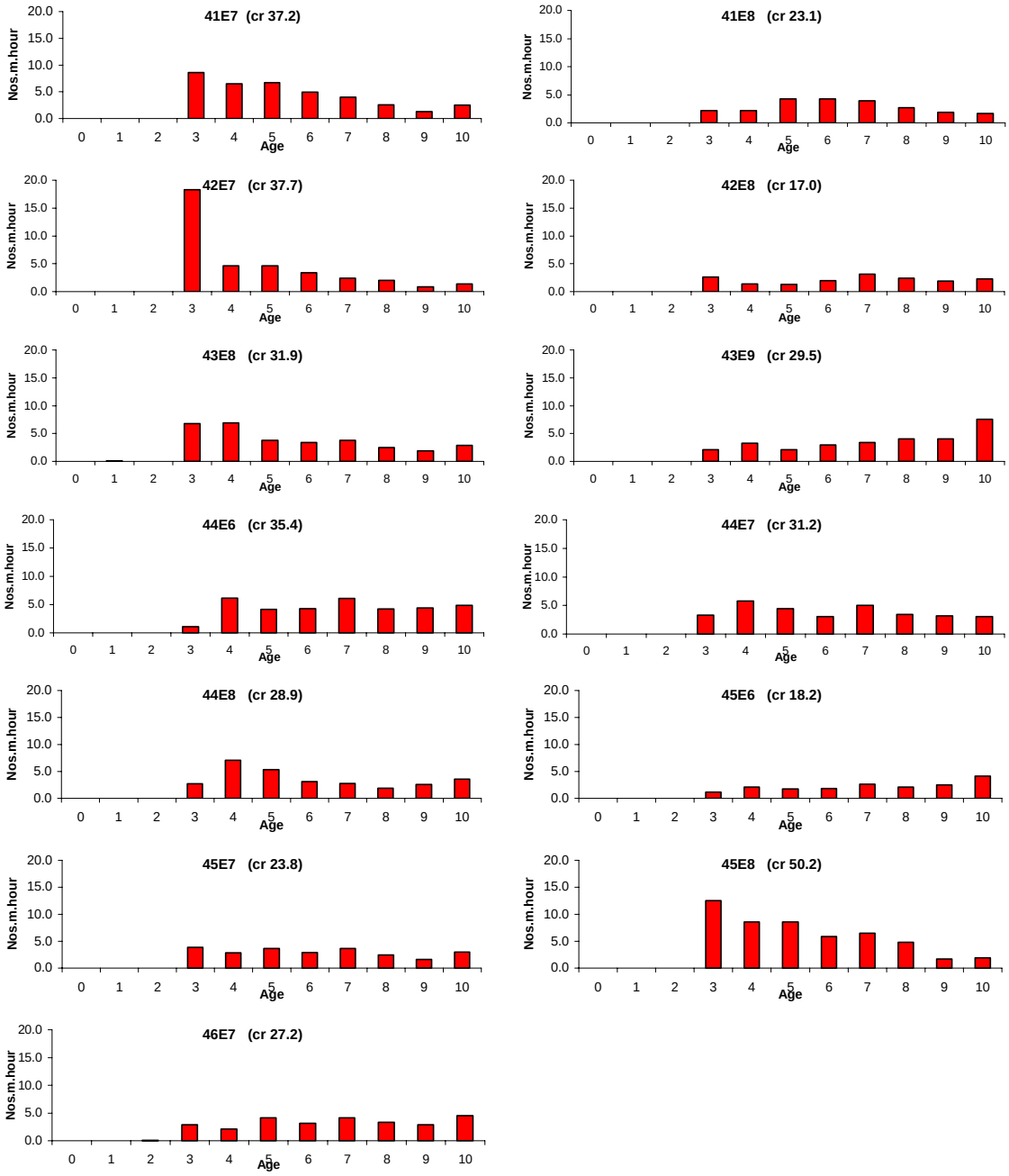
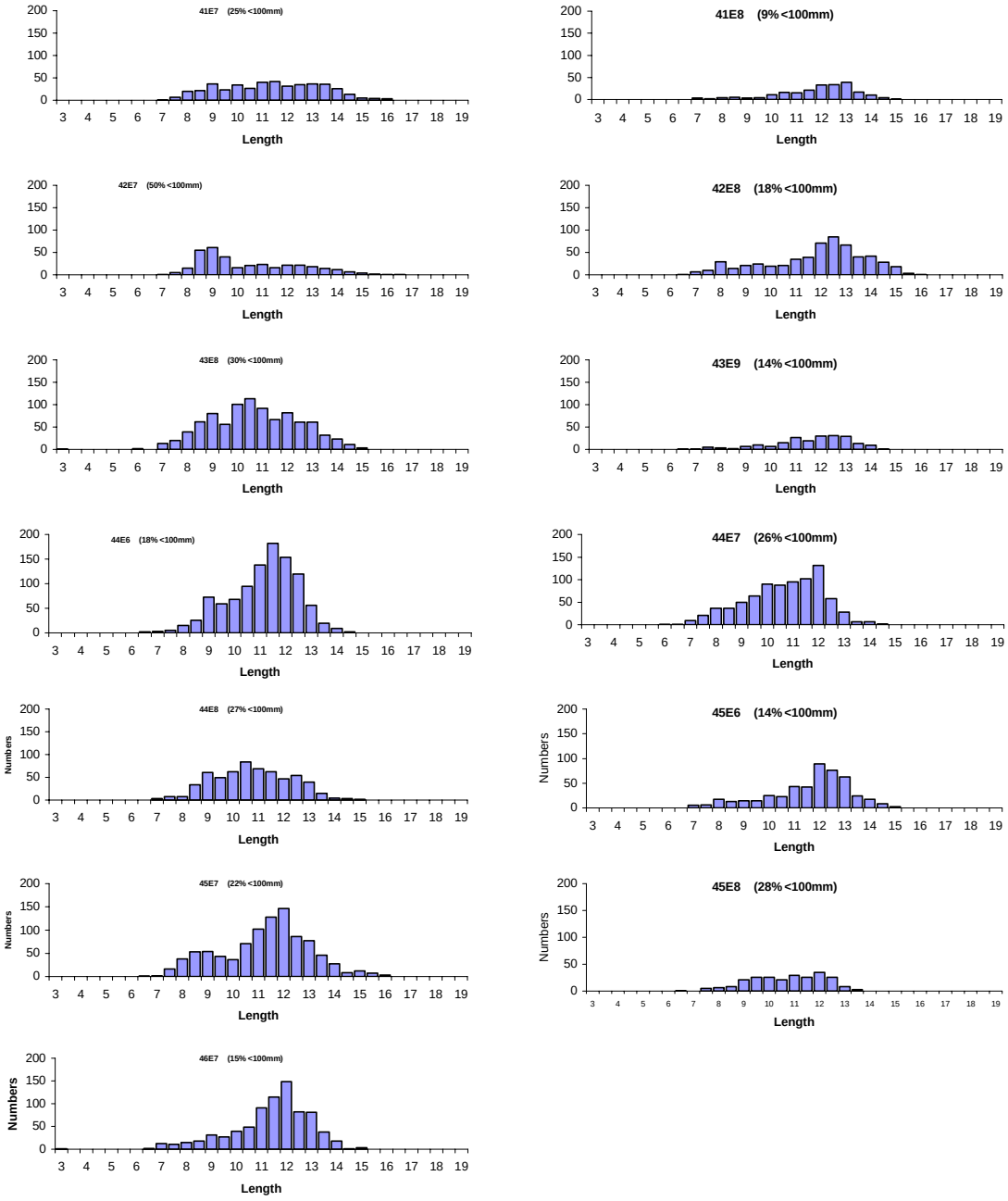

41E7 (cr 37.2)
41E8 (cr 23.1)
42E7 (cr 37.7)
42E8 (cr 17.0)
43E8 (cr 31.9)
43E9 (cr 29.5)
44E6 (cr 35.4)
44E7 (cr 31.2)
44E8 (cr 28.9)
45E6 (cr 18.2)
45E7 (cr 23.8)
45E8 (cr 50.2)
46E7 (cr 27.2)
Nos.m.hour
Age
0.0
5.0
10.0
15.0
20.0
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Figure 3


41E7 (25% <100mm)
41E8 (9% <100mm)
42E7 (50% <100mm)
42E8 (18% <100mm)
43E8 (30% <100mm)
43E9 (14% <100mm)
44E6 (18% <100mm)
44E7 (26% <100mm)
44E8 (27% <100mm)
45E6 (14% <100mm)
45E7 (22% <100mm)
45E8 (28% <100mm)
46E7 (15% <100mm)
Numbers
Length