



Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute
 Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science Division
 Fisheries and Aquatic Ecosystems Branch

Cruise Report: CO 3310

Vessel: RV *Corystes*

Date: 17th – 20th August 2010

Area: Irish Sea (north); ICES VIIa

Survey Type: Biological Oceanography & Mooring Service

Personnel:

B Stewart	SSO	AFBI	17 – 20 August
R Gilmore	SO	AFBI	17 – 20 August
C Smyth	SO	AFBI	17 – 20 August
P Irvine	SO	AFBI	17 – 20 August
O Olangunju	Student	Univ Exeter	17 – 20 August
R Smith	Student	Univ Exeter	17 – 20 August

Objectives:

- i. To maintain an insitu monitoring programme in the Irish Sea.
- ii. To investigate the distribution of dissolved nutrients and phytoplankton over a grid of stations in the Irish Sea.

<u>Circulation</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Comments</u>
DCSO & CSO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ship Managers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fisheries Division	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ANIFPO	<input type="checkbox"/>	
NIFPO	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed Head of Branch

Methods:

- Stations were profiled using a Seabird SBE 32 water sampler and SBE 911 CTD
- Vertical zooplankton net hauls were taken using a 200 micron mesh bongo net with a 500mm diameter inlet.

Cruise Narrative:Tuesday 17 August 2010

Following a talk on ship's safety and a demonstration of personal life saving equipment, the RV Corystes departed Belfast at 2200 hrs and sailed overnight in a light breeze to the mooring station 38A

Wednesday 18 August 2010

The vessel arrived on mooring station 38A at 0630 hrs. The weather was dry and bright with a light westerly wind when work commenced at 0800hrs with recovery of the instrument mooring to ship deck. Data from thermistors, CTD and water sampler were down loaded. Samples were removed from the water sampler and following a detailed inspection of mooring components the instruments were reprogrammed and mooring components reassembled. The instrument mooring was then successfully redeployed at 1245 hrs in depth 92 metres on position $53^{\circ} 46'.940\text{N}$ $005^{\circ} 37'.926\text{W}$. Following deployment of the rosette water sampler and CTD the Corystes sailed to sample at Irish coastal stations 37, 36 and 47D before work turning in a westerly direction to sample at LB08 where work for the day was completed at 2000 hrs. Overnight the vessel sailed into Liverpool Bay.

Thursday 19 August 2010

Work for the day commenced at 0800 hrs with sampling at station LB01 and continued in a westerly along the remainder of the Liverpool Bay transect stations CF5M, LB03, LB04, LB05, LB06 and LB07. Sampling completed the Corystes sailed to dock in Belfast at 2230 hrs.

Work Completed:

Favourable weather conditions enabled a successful service of the AFBI mooring and completion of the sampling survey along the Liverpool Bay transect.

Operational Aspects of the Ship:

During the cruise the A-frame, main trawl winches, both hydrographic winches and the ship's clean seawater supply were used. No problems were encountered with the ship's equipment or indeed any of the scientific equipment. The hotel and catering service was of an acceptable standard and there was a reasonable working relationship between the scientists and the ship's crew. Prior to the ship departing Belfast a comprehensive and detailed safety briefing was delivered to the scientific crew.

Acknowledgments:

I am indebted the deck crew of the RV Corystes for their co-operation and assistance during the mooring recovery and deployment operation. The ship's master, officers, engineers and catering staff are also thanked for their co-operation during this cruise.

I also thank Robert Smith and Olanrewaju Olagunju, visiting students from Exeter University, for their assistance during this cruise.

Scientist in Charge

Date: 15 September 2010

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