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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1975 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV TELLINA: CRUISE 4

(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF

B C Mumford
T Watson (14 April-9 May and 11 May)
J Joyce, NERC Student (10-13 April and 10 May)

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 0730 h, 10 April

Arrived Lowestoft 1300 h, 11 May

All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

East Coast

AIMS

1. To carry out a trawl survey for demersal fish within the 12 mile limit between 53°30'N and 51°30'N.
2. To carry out a series of repeat hauls in specific areas to obtain haul to haul variance with the standard trawl and also to make comparative hauls using an alternative groundrope rig.
3. To carry out a 13 hour current meter and water bottle station off Lowestoft on two occasions during the cruise.
4. To carry out a grab survey off Lowestoft and Southwold.
5. To tag cod, sole and plaice not required for biological samples.

NARRATIVE

TELLINA sailed from Lowestoft at 0730 h, 10 April and, working from Lowestoft each day until 13 April, completed 55 Van Veen grab hauls, and the first of the 13 h D.R.C.M. and water bottle stations: an unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain living Pectinaria.

On 14 April TELLINA sailed north from Lowestoft and after anchoring in the R. Humber that night completed 10 trawl survey hauls between 15-19 April. Strong southerly winds prevented any work on 17 April. The vessel returned to Lowestoft at 1430 h, 19 April.

From 20 April-24 April a further 8 trawl survey hauls were made using Lowestoft as a base. The mid-trip break for crew and scientific staff was taken between

25-27 April.

TELLINA sailed from Lowestoft at 0830 h, 28 April and using Ipswich as a base completed a further 9 trawl survey hauls between 28 April-2 May. Bad weather prevented work on 1 May.

Strong to gale force north-easterly wind prevented any further work until 8 May when passage was made to Lowestoft, arriving there at 2015 h. One trawl survey haul was made. On 9 and 11 May a series of trawl hauls were made off Lowestoft to compare fish catches using a bobbin groundrope and a rubber disc groundrope alternatively: all suitable plaice were tagged.

A second 13 h DRCM and water bottle station was carried out on 10 May.

RESULTS

1. 28 trawl survey hauls were completed with only minor damage to the trawl on one haul. All fish caught were identified and counted with the commercially important species being measured and otolithed.
2. A series of 8 trawl hauls were made over the same ground off Lowestoft to determine the difference in catch rates between a bobbin groundrope and a rubber disc groundrope.
- 3&4. Both 13 h DRCM and water bottle stations were completed and 55 Van Veen grab hauls were made in and around the spoil dumping areas off Lowestoft. An attempt to obtain living Pectinaria from a position off Dunwich where they had been obtained before was unsuccessful.
5. 254 immature plaice were tagged with mini-Petersen discs and released at a position 1 m SE Pakefield Church.

B C Mumford
21 May 1975

SEEN IN DRAFT: AP

INITIALLED: AJL

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List

B C Mumford

T Watson

J Joyce

Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee

Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee