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1975 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV TELLINA: CRUISE 10

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

STAFF

T J Hulme  
R B Cross

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1000 h 21 November  
Arrived Lowestoft 0300 h 15 December  
All times are Greenwich Mean Time

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LOCALITY

North east coast

AIMS

1. To carry out depth-stratified trawl surveys for demersal species in two areas:
  - (a) between  $55^{\circ}\text{N}$  and  $55^{\circ}20'\text{N}$
  - (b) between  $54^{\circ}05'\text{N}$  and  $54^{\circ}25'\text{N}$ .
2. To collect stomach contents of the main demersal species.

NARRATIVE

After being delayed by gale force winds for four days, TELLINA sailed from Lowestoft at 1000 h 21 November. The passage to the Tyne was again held up by gales and TELLINA took shelter in Scarborough for two days. On 24 November TELLINA steamed from Scarborough to the Tyne and made a start on the survey in area (a). During the next two days 10 stations of the survey were completed, then bad weather put a stop to the work.

The crew and scientific staff had a mid-trip break between 28 November-1 December.

On returning to the Tyne, gales again held up the survey. Work was restarted on 4 December and the survey was completed on the morning of 10 December, a further two days work having been lost through bad weather. TELLINA sailed from the Tyne at 1015 h 10 December and steamed to Scarborough, docking there at 1830 h. Trawling began in area (b) on 11 December, when good weather allowed, two of the offshore stations to be fished. Only one haul was made on 12 December before gale force winds stopped TELLINA fishing. No further work was carried out. TELLINA took advantage of a lull in the weather to run back to Lowestoft, leaving Scarborough at 0915 h 14 December and docking at Lowestoft at 0300 h 15 December.

## RESULTS

### Aim 1 (a)

The survey north of the Tyne was completed. 25 half-hour trawl hauls were made between 55°00'N and 55°20'N. All fish caught were sorted into species and counted. Cod, haddock, whiting, plaice and lemon sole were measured and otolith samples taken. Whiting was the most abundant of the commercial species caught, followed by haddock, cod, lemon soles and plaice respectively. With the exception of plaice, all the other commercial species were found to be most abundant in the 40-60 m band. Haddock and whiting were distributed mainly in depths greater than 40 m, whereas cod and lemon soles were found in depths up to 60 m. The majority of the plaice (81%) were caught in the 0-20 m (as on TELLINA 5/75 and 7/75).

### (b)

Only 3 half-hour hauls were made between 54°05'N and 54°25'N. Whiting again was the most abundant of the commercial species followed by lemon soles, cod, plaice and haddock.

### Aim 2

The stomach contents of 622 fish were collected in area (a) and put into deep-freeze at North Shields. These were from cod (77), haddock (186), whiting (309), plaice (6) and lemon soles (44). No attempt was made to collect stomach contents from demersal fish in area (b).

In addition, samples of small gadoids were collected for Mr Blacker; 0-gp whiting for Mr Parnell and small fish from Druridge Bay were preserved for Mr Walker.

T J Hulme  
31 December 1975

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