Not to be cited without reference to Marine Scotland Science, Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

MFV Christina S (FR224)

Survey 0313H

PROGRAMME

4-25 June 2013

Ports

Loading: Fraserburgh, 3 June 2013
Half Landing: Galway/Cork, 17 June 2013 (provisional)
Unloading: Fraserburgh, 25 July 2013

In setting the cruise programme and specific objectives, etc the Scientist-in-Charge needs to be aware of the restrictions on working hours and the need to build in adequate rest days and rest breaks as set out in Marine Scotland's Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03). In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the cruise with staff on-board before work is commenced.

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the Cruise Report, to I Gibb and the Cruise Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to M Geldart, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Personnel

J Drewery	(SIC)
F Burns	(Part 1)
A Edridge	
E Barreto	
R Dinsdale	
R Watret	(Part 1)
N Collie	(Part 2)
R Gillespie-Mules	(Part 2)

Out-turn days per project: 22 days, RV1306.

Fishing/Sampling Gear: Gulf VII plankton sampler. Vessels own pelagic trawl.

Objectives

1. To carry out mackerel egg survey (ICES Triennial Survey), on the western shelf and shelf edge in the area from 50^{o}N to 60^{o}N and 4^{o}W to 20^{o}W (Figure 1).

2. To collect fish samples, by trawling, for atresia and fecundity analysis back at the laboratory.

Procedures

The vessel will proceed to the first plankton station line at 58^{0} 45'N 3^{o}45W. Plankton stations will be taken westwards along the line 58^{0} 45'N at 30' intervals. Subsequent

transects will be at 1°N intervals with stations at 30' E/W intervals. Plankton stations will be taken using the Gulf VII sampler with mounted CTD which will record salinity and temperature during the tow. The plankton tows will require the vessel to deploy and tow the sampler at 4-5 knots. The sampler will be lowered at a steady rate (10m/min) to within 5 m of the seabed or 200 m – whichever is shallower. The sampler will then be recovered at the same speed. Once aboard, plankton samples will be washed from the sampler net, fixed in formalin and scored for egg abundance. Trawl samples will be taken at the discretion of the scientist in charge. There should be a maximum of 15 trawls for the whole survey. The precise length of each transect cannot be defined in advance as this survey uses an adaptive design, where sampling along a line will continue until there are no or very small numbers of eggs.

The half landing is expected to be in Ireland around 17 June and likely to be either Galway or Cork depending on the progress of the survey. Due to the adaptive design of the survey and also the extremely large area to be covered the survey plan cannot be finalised in advance, rather it will be dictated according to the results that are recorded as the survey proceeds..

Normal contact will be retained with the laboratory throughout, and with other vessels taking part in the survey.

Submitted:
F Burns
20 May 2013.

Approved:
I Gibb
28 May 2013

Figure 1: Map showing the potential survey area to be covered.