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MRV Scotia

Survey 0413S

PROGRAMME

17 April – 8 May 2013

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, 15 April 2013
Half Landing: Killybegs**/**Galway, (provisional)
Unloading: Aberdeen, 8 May 2013

In setting the survey 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 survey with staff on-board before work is commenced.

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

Personnel

F Burns (SIC)
J Drewery
A Edridge
E Armstrong
K Summerbell
M Inglis
M Oliver

Out-turn days: 22 - RV1305

Fishing/Sampling Gear

GOV (BT137) with Groundgear 'D', Pelagic Trawl (PT160)
Gulf VII plankton sampler

Objectives

1. To carry out mackerel egg survey (ICES Triennial Survey), on the western shelf and shelf edge in the area from 54^{o}N to 60^{o} N (see 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 59^0 45'N 5^o15W. Plankton stations will be taken along the line 59^0 45'N at 30' intervals. Subsequent transects will be at 1^oN 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 then proceed to tow the sampler at five knots. The sampler will then be lowered at a steady rate (10m/min) from the plankton crane 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 but at least one trawl will be attempted at each 0.5 degree of latitude. There should be a maximum of 15 trawls for the whole survey, and will usually be taken at the shelf edge. 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 2 May and probably in Killybegs although depending on the progress of the other vessels sampling during this period (see Figure 1) *Scotia* may be asked to extend the range down to 53N which would see Galway as a possibility for a half landing. Following the half landing the survey will proceed back over the area covered in the first half with transects interlaced between those carried out during the first half.

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

Submitted:
Finlay Burns
05/04/2013

Approved:
I Gibb
08/04/2013

Figure 1: Map showing international survey coverage. 0413S denoted as ‘SCO 2’ on plot.