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FRV Scotia

Cruise 0510S

PROGRAMME

20 April – 11 May 2010

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, 16 April
Half Landing: Galway, 2 May (provisional)
Unloading: Aberdeen, 11 May

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

1 F Burns (In Charge)
2 E Armstrong
3 A Tait
4 R Watret
5 A Edridge
6 D Wall (visitor)

Out-turn days: 22_ RV1004

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 51^{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 the sampler at 1-2 knots, and then steam at 5 knots. The sampler will then be lowered at a steady rate (10m/min) from the plankton crane to within 5m of the seabed or 200m – 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, 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 Galway, depending on the progress of the survey. 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
7 April 2010.

Approved:
I Gibb
8 April 2010.

Figure.1. Map showing international survey coverage. 0510S denoted as ‘SCO 1’ on plot.