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## **RV Corystes**

Cruise 0810H

## **PROGRAMME**

19 May – 2 June 2010

## **Ports**

**Loading:** Greenock, 19 May

**Unloading:** Greenock, 2 June

**\*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 (which is published on the Intranet). 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**

F Burns        SIC  
J Drewery  
M O'Sullivan  
A Edridge  
L Ritchie

**Out-turn days per project:** 15, RV1005.

**Fishing/Sampling Gear:** Pelagic Trawl, Gulf VII plankton sampler

## **Objectives**

1. To carry out mackerel egg survey (ICES Triennial Survey), on the western shelf and slope in the area from 55°N to 60° N (see Figure 1).
2. To collect fish samples, by trawling, for atresia and fecundity analysis back at the laboratory.

## **Procedures**

The vessel will be loaded on the morning of 19 May then when ready proceed to the first plankton station west of Islay at 55° 45'N 6°45'W. Plankton stations will be taken west along the line 55° 45'N at 30' intervals until 8°15'W and from there the vessel will head due south

and continue sampling west along the transect at 55° 15'N. Subsequent transects north of this 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 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 transect will continue until there are no or very small numbers of eggs.

Once the transect at 59° 45'N has been completed and depending on the time available the survey will proceed back south surveying the transects missed out during the first half. The vessel will return to port for unloading on 2 June 2010.

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

Submitted:  
*Finlay Burns*  
2 May 2010

Approved  
*I Gibb*  
7 May 2010

**Figure 1:** Map showing international survey coverage. 0810H denoted as 'SCO 2' on plot.

