

P17/15

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen.

FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 1207S

## **PROGRAMME**

10 August – 1 September 2007

### **Project**

RV0711 / MF0764

### **Ports**

**Loading:** Aberdeen, 8 August  
**Half landing:** Stavanger or Esjberg, 21/22 August (provisional)  
**Unloading:** Aberdeen, 1 September

**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 FRS' Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03)**

### **Personnel**

K A Coull (in charge)  
M Mathewson  
I Penny  
A Tait  
J Mair  
L Ritchie  
D Tobin

**Fishing Gear:** GOV Trawl BT 137

### **Objectives**

1. To undertake an internationally co-ordinated demersal trawling survey of the North Sea.
2. Obtain temperature and salinity profiles at each trawling station.
3. Obtain (20 \* 25 litres) low nutrient seawater from statistical rectangle 45F1 (or an adjacent rectangle).
4. To collect photographs and biological material for use at Maturity Workshop in Cod, Haddock, Saithe and Whiting.

5. To collect samples of 0-group cod and haddock for analysis of genetics and otolith chemistry.
6. To collect and return live 0-group cod and haddock to FRS.

## **Procedures**

### **Trawling**

One haul of 30 minutes duration will be made in each statistical rectangle shown on the attached chart. Daily start times should take into account the request from IBTS Working Group to vary the shooting time for the first haul of the day. The Scanmar system will be used to monitor headline height, wing spread, door spread and distance covered during each haul.

Trawling for live fish will be conducted at night, in positions determined in consultation with fishing master, and in synchrony with the groundfish survey design. Tows of 15-30 minute duration will be carried out with a BT137 net, which has been modified to incorporate a live fish cod-end. Stations may be sampled more than once, in order to obtain suitable sample numbers.

### **Sampling**

Catches will be worked up according to standing instructions. Additional biological data will be collected from species listed in the Data Collection Regulations (1639/2001).

### **Hydrography**

A CTD will be deployed at each trawling station. The ships thermosalinigraph will be operated throughout the cruise.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

J. A. Morrison

**Qu**

Quarter 3 Groundfish Survey  
10 August – 1 September 2007

