

**DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS
CEFAS, LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND**

2004 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: RV CEFAS CORYSTES: CRUISE 04/04

STAFF: E D Bell (SIC), J D Metcalfe, D Righton, K Turner-Welsby, C Stewart, J van der Kooij, O Heffernan, J Blanchard.

DURATION: 19 April - 05 May

LOCALITY: North Sea

AIMS:

1. To use acoustic & fishing survey methods to estimate the abundance and distribution of sandeels on sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff (Dogger Bank) & The Hills.
2. To use fishing survey methods to estimate the abundance and distribution of predatory fish feeding on sandeels on the sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff & The Hills.
3. To use fishing survey methods (Bongo net) to estimate the abundance and distribution of plankton on the sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff & The Hills.
4. To use QTC and Day grab to describing sediment type in relation to sandeel distribution and abundance on the sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff & The Hills.
5. To use acoustic & fishing survey methods to determine sandeel abundance outside traditional sandeel fishing areas.

PLAN: (all times are British Summer Time)

CORYSTES will sail on the morning tide (0930 h) on Monday 19th April 2004 and proceed to The Hills and commence surveying. Between surveying the Hills and the North West Riff areas (aims 1-4), a search for sandeels outside the traditional fishing areas between the English coast and the Hills (aim 5) will be undertaken. After completion of the North West Riff survey area, further searching for sandeels will take place in the Leman/Haddock/Ower bank area before returning to Lowestoft.

E D Bell

25th March 2004

Distribution list:

Basic list +

E D Bell, J D Metcalfe, D Righton, K Turner-Welsby, C Stewart, J van der Kooij, O Heffernan, J Blanchard.