#### P17/6

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FRV Clupea

Cruise 0801C

# **REPORT**

15 June - 2 July 2001

#### **Ports**

Loading: 11 June, Fraserburgh Half-landing: 23 June, Fraserburgh Unloading: 2 July, Fraserburgh

## Personnel

T Howell In charge (15 - 25 June)

S Davis In charge (15 - 17 June/25 June - 2 July)

J Donald (18 June - 2 July)

H Vatanen, Visitor (Aberdeen University)

Fishing Gear: Scallop Dredges

Cost to project: 6 days, C687, 12 days, MF01T.

# **Objectives**

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks in the North Sea.

To collect information on by-catches of other commercial fish and shellfish species.

3. To collect biological data on scallop component tissue weights.

4. To collect samples for pollution analysis.

## **Narrative**

The scientific staff joined FRV *Clupea* at 0900 hours on 15 June and sailed from Fraserburgh at 1100 hours. Sampling began NE of Fraserburgh and continued in that area until the afternoon of 17 June when the vessel had to return to Fraserburgh to put S Davis ashore due to illness. The survey resumed on 18 June and J Donald came aboard that evening to replace S Davis. Sampling continued in the Moray Firth until making passage to Fraserburgh for the half landing. FRV *Clupea* entered Fraserburgh in late afternoon on 25 June and remained until 27 June. A change of scientific staff took place on 26 June. Passage to Aberdeen Bank commenced at 0700 on 27 June and continued off the east coast until the survey was completed at 1100 hours on 1 June. The vessel set sail for Fraserburgh, arriving in port at 1400 hours. Scientific staff returned to the laboratory with all equipment and samples.

# Results

During the trip 120 dredge hauls were made and a total of 4674 scallops were caught. The position of each haul is shown on the map in Figure 1. Catch rates varied from a minimum of 4/hr to a maximum of 277/hr. The aggregate catch rates for each statistical rectangle, expressed in numbers per hour per metre width age, are shown in Figure 2. The individual graph headings in Figure 2 show the overall catch rate for each statistical rectangle. The length frequencies in numbers caught per half centimetre length category are shown in Figure 3. The numbers of each by-catch species caught is given in Table 1. It was not possible to collect meat weight samples as no sea-going balances were available for this survey.

T Howell 19 July 2001

Seen in draft: Captain A Simpson

Table 1

Total number of each by-catch species

| Species                     | Numbers |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Aequipected opercularis     | 79      |
| Aspitrigla cuculus          | 1       |
| Buccinum undatum            | 160     |
| Cancer pagurus M            | 24      |
| Cancer pagurus F            | 47      |
| Cancer pagurus F (Berried)  | 10      |
| Hippoglossoides plaessoides | 13      |
| Limanda limanda             | 24      |
| Lithodes maja M             | 18      |
| Lithodes maja F             | 19      |
| Lithodes maja F (Berried)   | 8       |
| Lophius piscatorius         | 29      |
| Microstomus kitt            | 18      |
| Necora puber M              | 1       |
| Neptunea antigua            | 340     |
| Phrynorhombus norvegicus    | 2       |
| Pleuronectes platessa       | 55      |
| Raja clavata M              | 3       |
| Raja clavata F              | 4       |
| Raja naevus M               | 38      |
| Raja naevus F               | 42      |
| Scophthalmus maximus        | 1       |
| Scyliorhinus canicula M     | 1       |
| Scyliorhinus canicula F     | 1       |





