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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1983 CHARTER CRUISE PROGRAMME

REPORT: ANGELLE MARIE: CRUISE 1

STAFF:

G Pickett
T Benford

DURATION:

5-9 September

LOCALITY:

Solent

AIMS:

1. To tag bass.
2. To compare year class strengths of juvenile bass with those determined for the Solent in 1981 and 1982.

NARRATIVE:

Staff travelled to Portsmouth on 5 September and commenced fishing the following morning. The chartered vessel ANGELLE MARIE was used towing a high lift trawl with a shrimp mesh cod-end liner (the same trawl used for previous surveys). In four days sufficient bass were obtained to satisfy both aims and staff returned to Lowestoft late on 9 September.

RESULTS:

A total of 812 bass were caught and measured. They ranged from 16 cm to 48 cm total length, representing fish from age groups 1+ to 8+. The largest numbers of bass were caught near the Chichester Bar and in Hayling Bay, but these were mostly small fish. On the south side of the Solent, off Osborne Bay, the younger age groups were poorly represented but moderate numbers of bass between 5 and 7 years old were caught (an average of 10 per 15 minute tow). Scale samples were taken from all fish for age determination. Bass over 25 cm total length were tagged using mini-Howitt tags. A total of 252 bass were tagged: of these 157 were released near Chichester and Hayling and 95 at Ryde and Osborne Bay, I.O.W.

G D Pickett
14 September 1983

INITIALLED: DJG

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list +
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Mr Pickett
Mrs Benford