

R1/3

In Confidence: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the Laboratory

RV "AORA" (Millport)

ME

Report

4 - 8 February 1985

Personnel

J H B Robertson
K A Ballantyne

Objectives

- 1) To obtain trawl codend selectivity data on Nephrops and demersal fish using square and diamond mesh codends and small mesh covers.
- 2) To obtain information on catch composition of Nephrops in different parts of the Clyde.

Narrative

"Aora" worked daily from Millport on grounds to the south of the island of Cumbrae. Fourteen hauls were completed. The cruise ended in Millport on 8 February.

Results

Thirteen valid hauls were obtained on one diamond mesh and 2 square mesh codends. There was a small difference in retentive power between the 65mm diamond and 67.5mm square mesh codends. However the 57mm square mesh codend displayed better selection characteristics whilst retaining nearly the same percentage of Nephrops as the 65mm diamond mesh codend. The following table is a summary of the results.

Mesh Type	Mesh size (mm)	No of combined hauls	50% carapace length (mm)	Percentage <u>Nephrops</u> retained in codend
Diamond	65	3	20.4	76
Square	67.5	4	25.7	54
Square	57	6	29.2	69

Few fish were caught. The results for objective 2 are being analysed in the Laboratory.

J H B Robertson

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