

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

1973 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CIROLANA: CRUISE 6A 1973

(Provisional: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF

B W Jones
J G Pope
C N Humphreys
C L Whiting
D J Peek
C J Garrod
A J Burridge
R V Perkins (Hull)

DURATION

Left Grimsby 1430 hours 28 June
Arrived Stornaway 1415 hours 12 July

LOCALITY

Faroe

AIMS

Cruise 6a

1. To make a survey of the distribution and abundance of 0-group fish in the waters around the Faroe Islands.
2. To collect water samples in the North Sea for the Fisheries Radiobiological Laboratory.

NARRATIVE

CIROLANA sailed from Grimsby at 1430 h 28 June. Water samples for the Fisheries Radiobiological Laboratory were collected on passage to Faroe Bank. On arrival at the starting point of the 0-group survey grid adverse weather delayed the start, but trawling eventually commenced on the morning of 1 July with depth calibrations of the trawl. The acoustic link failed to work and the calibration was completed with headline transducer. An echo survey and a grid of 83 trawl stations was worked during 10 days, with two further interruptions due to adverse weather and a brief visit to Thorshaven to land a sick deckhand. Time was also lost when a trawl, complete with doors and headline transducer, was lost when the door links and wires parted on both sides when shooting. Attempts to recover the trawl were unsuccessful. The last station of the grid was completed in the afternoon of the 11 July and the ship then proceeded to Stornoway via Thorshaven where the deckhand, who had been in hospital, was sent out to the ship in a small boat. CIROLANA arrived in Stornoway at 1415 h 12 July.

RESULTS

1. The echo and fishing survey of 0-group fish in the Faroe area was completed successfully. The general distribution of fish was very similar to that recorded last year (the first survey in the Faroe Area). The main distribution of haddock was over the banks on the east of Faroe Plateau and on Faroe Bank, but the abundances recorded were lower than last year on the Plateau and slightly greater on the Bank.

Cod were taken this year in greater numbers on both the Plateau and Faroe Bank, and on the Plateau the greatest abundances (up to 27,000 per 30 min tow) were recorded close to the islands. As in last year's survey only very few saithe were caught. It is believed that at this time of year most of the young saithe are in the inshore waters. Norway pout and sandeels were again very abundant at many stations in shallower water.

2. Water samples for the Fisheries Radiobiological Laboratory were collected in the North Sea as requested.

3. Samples of 0-group fish, sandeels and euphausiids were frozen for hatchery fish food.

4. Specimens of 0-group fish were preserved for addition to the collection of type specimens for identification.

B W Jones
18 July 1973

SEEN IN DRAFT T H Finn G W Argumont

INITIALLED A J L

DISTRIBUTION

Basic List +

B W Jones
J G Pope
C N Humphreys
C L Whiting
D J Feek
C J Garrod
A J Burridge
R V Perkins (Hull)
G W Argumont