

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

1971 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CIROLANA: CRUISE 8B

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

STAFF

G C Bolster  
P D Wallace  
T W Boon  
C J Garrod  
C J Gough (Conway)  
P Bryan (Grimsby)  
J R Corbin (Hull)  
J N Patalot (Philippines)

DURATION

Left Liverpool at 1220 hours, 15 October

Arrived Great Yarmouth at 1800 hours, 27 October

Arrived Grimsby at 1400 hours, 28 October

All times are British Standard Time

LOCALITY

West coasts of Scotland and Ireland, Celtic Sea and Eddystone area.

AIMS

1. A survey with the Tin Tow-Net for herring larvae within the area bounded by Latitude  $54^{\circ}$  and  $60^{\circ}$  N, and by  $4^{\circ}$  and  $10^{\circ}$  W.
2. Survey of the Porcupine Bank for mackerel.
3. Survey of the Celtic Sea and Eddystone area for pilchard larvae (Tin Tow-Net), and mackerel (Trawls and Hand Lines).

NARRATIVE

The ship was detained in Liverpool due to a defect in the bow-thrust propeller mechanism, and sailed at 1220 hours on 15 October. Because of the shortened programme, priority was given to the Hebridean larval survey, Aim 1.

The Tin Tow-Net was calibrated for flow-through and depth/warp-out north of Belfast Lough and the first station completed by 1031 hours on 16 October. Working from the south northwards the survey was carried out in unfavourable weather conditions during the next seven days. It was necessary to find shelter on the east side of South Uist on the nights of 17 and 18 October, and to modify the grid when on the most northerly part, so that, when off Cape Wrath and north-east of Lewes, those stations which were sheltered could be worked.

On arrival at Stornoway at 0940 hours on 22 October, the Second Engineer was taken to hospital. By evening the weather had improved and so the ship left the port at 1715 hours, and proceeded south to complete the stations in Donegal Bay by 1000 hours on 24 October. As it was not possible to attempt Aim 2 in the time left after completing the survey, we proceeded to a position on the edge of the Continental Shelf to the southwest of Ireland. From here an echo survey was made via the Fastnet to Land's End.

Three trawl hauls were made between the Lizard and the Eddystone during the period 0140 and 0800 hours on 26 October, but no red mullet (Mullus surmuletus, Linn.) were caught. Line fishing five miles south of the Eddystone between 0830 and 1100 hours on the same day yielded three baskets of mackerel.

The ship left the area at 1100 hours and proceeded to Great Yarmouth where she arrived at 1800 hours on 27 October.

#### RESULTS

1. At 78 out of a classified 89 stations, plankton hauls were made with the Tin Tow Net (Aim 1).
2. Mackerel were caught on feathers and observations made on temperature with depth in the area (Aim 3).
3. An echo survey from the edge of the Continental Shelf to Lands End was made for Mr Hepper.
4. Samples of live plankton were made for Mrs Thompson.
5. Water samples from prescribed areas were taken for Mr Jeffries.

G Bolster  
27 October 1971

SEEN IN DRAFT: E A Binnington (Master)

W J Saxby (Fishing Skipper)

INITIALLED HAC

#### DISTRIBUTION

Basic List  
Mr P Wallace  
Mr T W Boon  
Mr C J Garrod  
Mr C J Gough (Conway)  
Mr P Bryan (Grimsby)  
Mr J R Corbin (Hull)  
Mr J N Patalot (Philippines)