

R1/6

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

FRV "CLUPEA"

CRUISE 11/83

JR

REPORT

6 - 26 October 1983

Objectives

1. To examine the influence on fishing performance of fishing square extensions in both large and small mesh.
2. To further investigate the selection of fish by size/species using internal angled netting panels.
3. To continue maximum contrast net studies.

Narrative

"Clupea" left Buckie on 6 October and steamed north to Kirkwall. On 7 October the fishing gear was rigged and the RCTV vehicle sent ashore for modifications. The cable winch terminations were repaired and television equipment made ready for sea. Six hauls were made in the Copinsay area on 8 and 9 October but bad weather prevented any work on 10 October. Four more hauls were carried out on 11 October but the continuing bad weather kept "Clupea" in harbour until 16 October. A further nine hauls were made off Copinsay up to the morning of 18 October when "Clupea" was again forced to seek shelter.

Trawling recommenced on 20 October and a further nine hauls were carried out until bad weather again stopped work on 23 October. Three more hauls were made on 24 October in the same area but on 25 October with weather conditions again unsuitable "Clupea" steamed south to the Moray Firth. A water sample for the MAFF Radio-Cesium monitoring programme was collected before entering Buckie that evening.

Results

A total of 31 hauls were made, 18 with the modified G.O.V. trawls, 10 with the multi level gear and 3 with the maximum contrast (black and white) net. 10 hours of underwater videotape material were recorded and the results are meantime being analysed.

Seen in draft: G Geddes

R D Galbraith

10 November 1983