

Aberdeen

In Confidence - Not to be quoted without reference to the laboratory

R1/6

AR

FRV 'Clupea'
Cruise 13/78
REPORT

13CR78

13 November - 7 December 1978

Objective:

To carry out a survey for herring larvae in the north western North Sea and to the north of Scotland.

Narrative:

'Clupea' sailed from Aberdeen at 1400 on 13 November. For most of the cruise operations were curtailed by bad weather. On the first week work was possible on only one night; some time was spent during daylight hours solving problems experienced in handling the Isaac Kidd Midwater Trawl (IKMT). During the second week work was possible on two nights and all the stations within the Moray Firth were sampled. In the third week sampling was carried out around the Orkney Islands. During the fourth week the weather restricted work to a line of stations in the southern part of the Moray Firth. The cruise ended at Buckie at 1530 on 7 December.

Results:

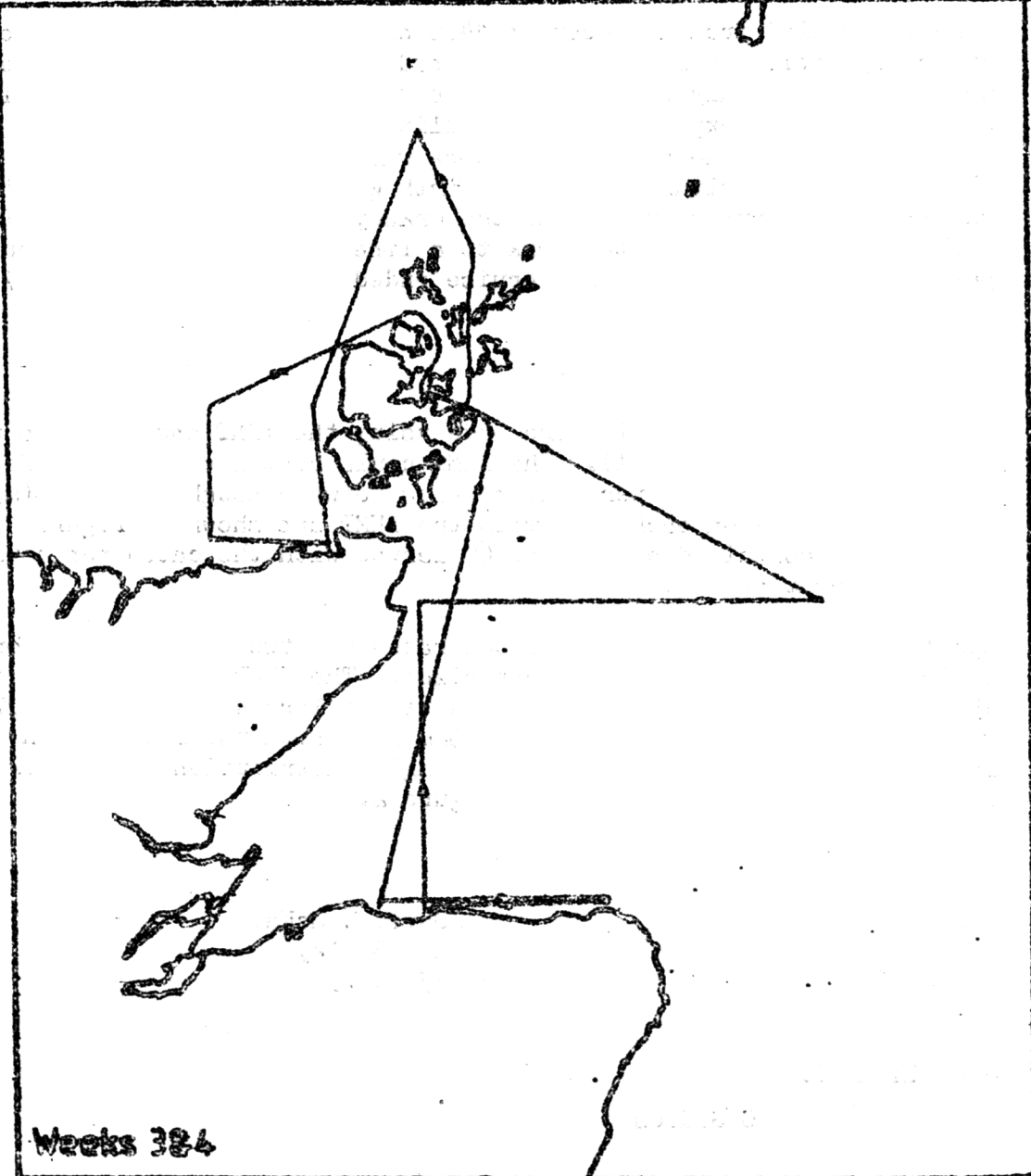
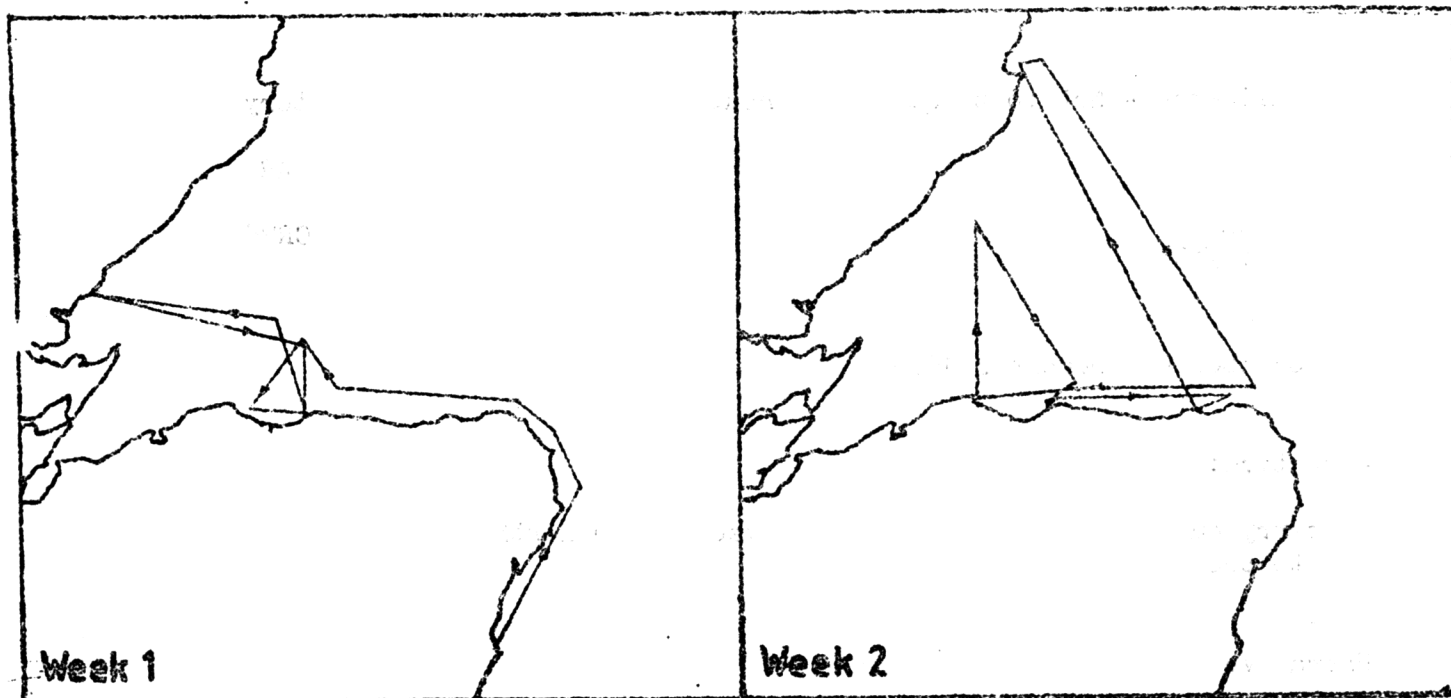
During the cruise 36 hauls were made using the IKMT and 27 hauls using the Dutch Gulf III (DGIII). The IKMT hauls contained a total of 1857 larvae, with the catch per haul ranging between nought and 215 (mean 52). The catches made on each haul with the IKMT are shown on Figure 1. The DGIII hauls contained a total of 60 larvae with the catch per haul ranging between nought and 14.

Apart from the differences in catch rates the two samplers used on this cruise caught larvae of different sizes. The IKMT caught larvae from 15 to 41mm long with the mean length of the larvae caught being 27.9mm. The DGIII caught larvae from 9 to 35mm long with the mean length of larvae caught being 21.5mm. The % length distribution of the larvae caught by both gears is shown in Figure 2.

David W McKay
R S Bailey
27 04 79

Seen in draft

G Geddes



ERY Clupea 13 / 11—7/12/78

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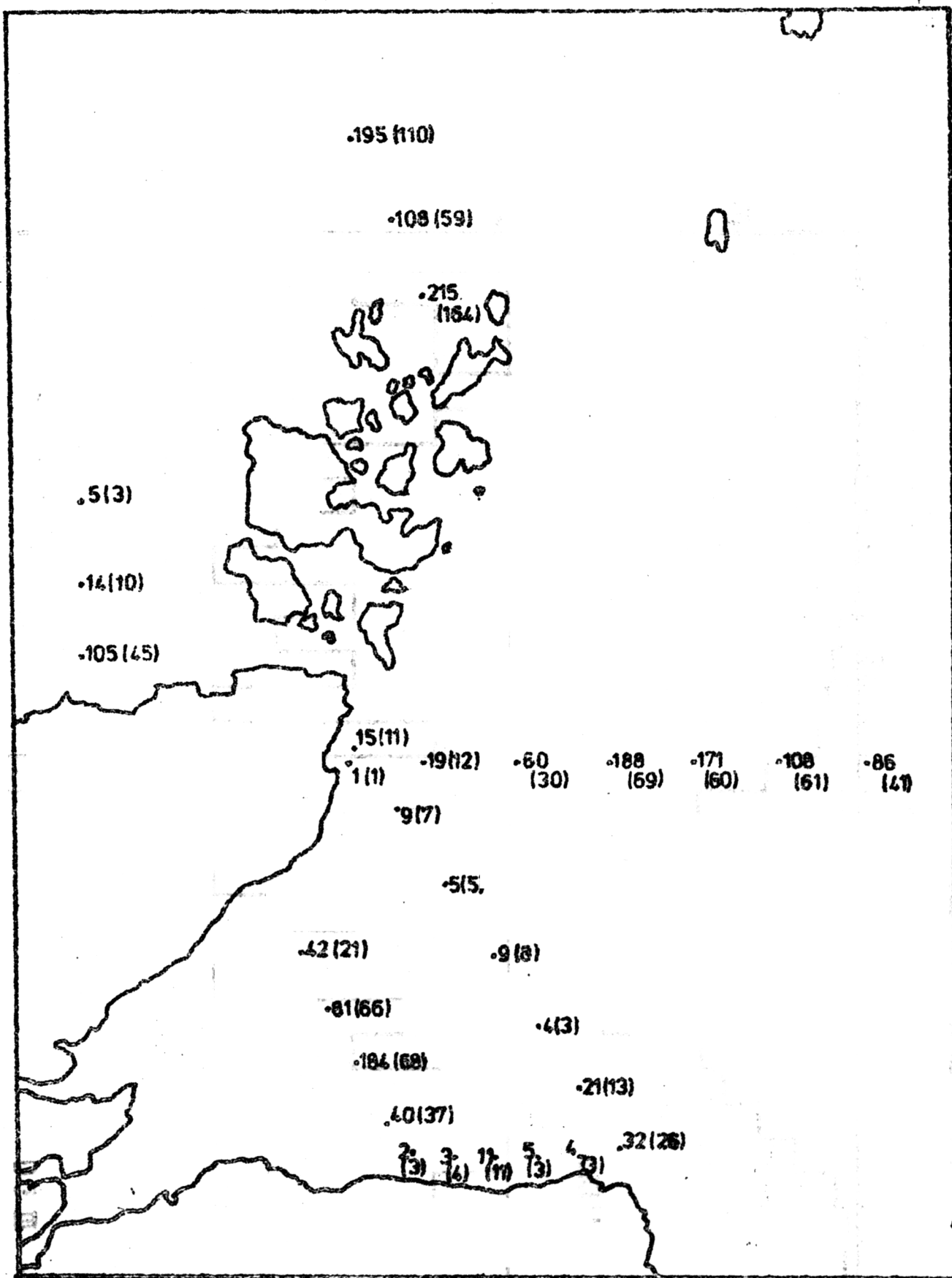


Fig 1 Catches of herring larvae from IKMT. Figures in brackets are catches for a 15 min tow.

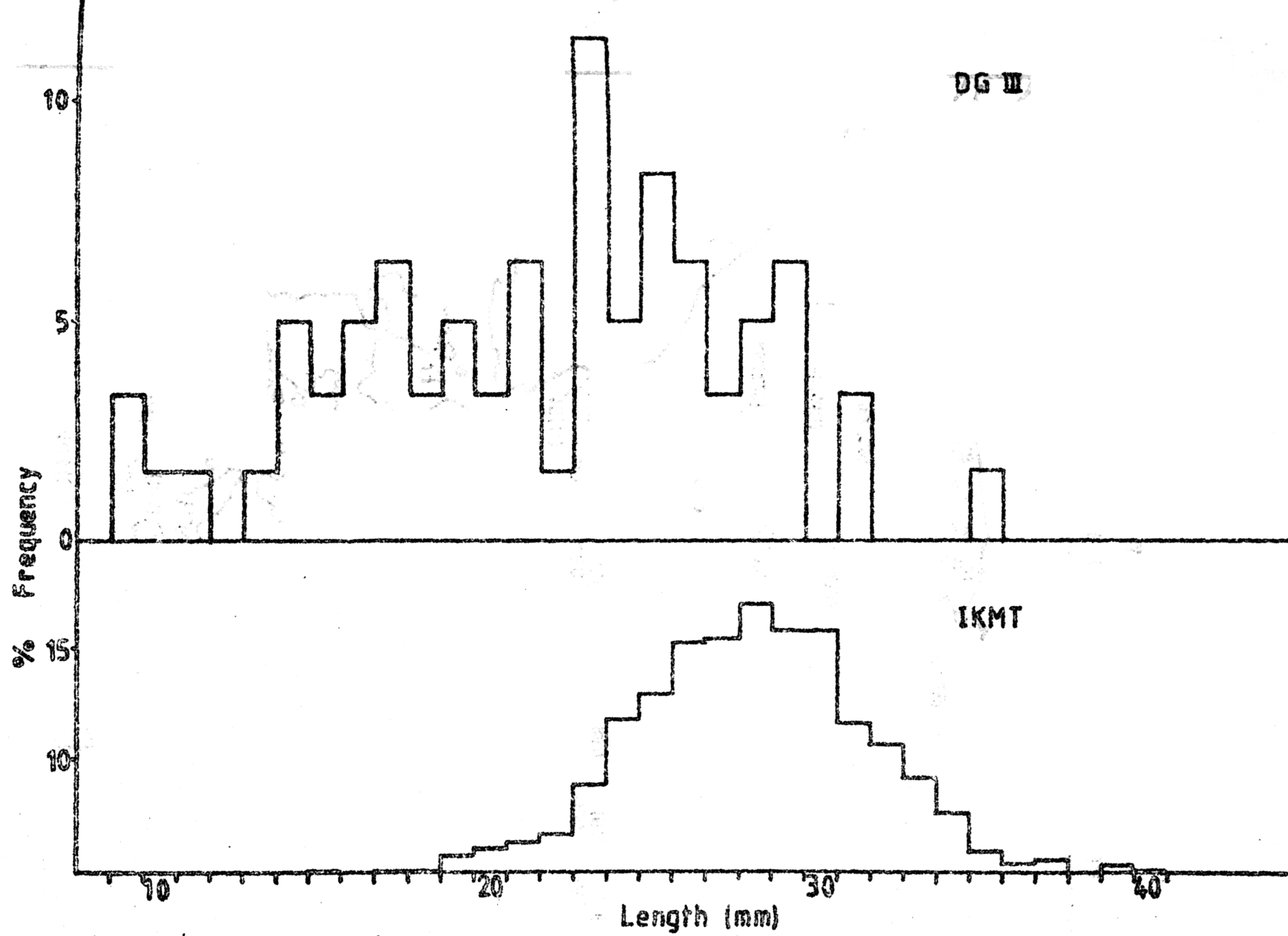


Fig 2 Length distribution of larvae from DG III and IKMT catches