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Not to be cited without prior reference to the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

FRV *Clupea*

Cruise 1997C

REPORT

11 November to 1 December 1997

Loading: 11 November, Fraserburgh

Unloading: 1 December, Fraserburgh

Half-landing: 20 December, Fraserburgh

Personnel

T Howell HSO (in charge 11-20 Nov)

S Davis SO (in charge 20 Nov - 1 Dec)

J Donald ASO

Fishing Gear: Scallop Dredges

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks in the North Sea.
2. To collect information on by-catches of other commercial fish and shellfish species.
3. To collect biological data on scallop growth rates and component tissue weights.

Out-time costs per project: 21 days - FBA1

Narrative

The scientific staff joined FRV *Clupea* at 0845 hours on 11 November and sailed from Fraserburgh at 1030 hours. Sampling began at 1345 at position 58°02.00'N 01°40.00'W and continued in the Moray Firth until 1445 on 17 November when bad weather hampered operations. FRV *Clupea* entered Fraserburgh in late afternoon on 17 November and remained until after the half-landing on 20 November. A change of scientific staff took place at 1200 hours on 20 November. Passage to Orkney commenced at 1400 hours on 21 November but were unable to begin work until 0800 hours on 23 November. Further passage to the Cromarty Firth on 24 November resulted in only four hauls in four days due to persistently bad weather. On 27 November the vessel sailed to Peterhead to make an attempt at the hauls south, but failed to do so until 30 November when two hauls were made on route to Fraserburgh. The vessel docked in Fraserburgh at 1430 hours on 30 November. Scientific personnel disembarked from FRV *Clupea* at 1030 hours on 1 December, returning to Aberdeen with all scientific equipment and samples.

Results

During the trip 58 dredge hauls were made and a total of 3750 scallops were caught. The position of each haul is shown on the map in Figure 1. Catch rates varied from a minimum of 9/hr to a maximum of 319/hr. The aggregate catch rates for each statistical rectangle, expressed in numbers per hour per metre width age, are shown in Figure 2. The individual graph headings in Figure 2 show the overall catch rate for each statistical rectangle. The length frequencies in numbers caught per half centimetre length category are shown in Figure 3. The numbers of each by-catch species caught is given in Table 1. Meat weight samples were taken from five different sites and is shown on Figure 1. Ring measurements for growth study were taken from five other sites and is also shown on Figure 1.

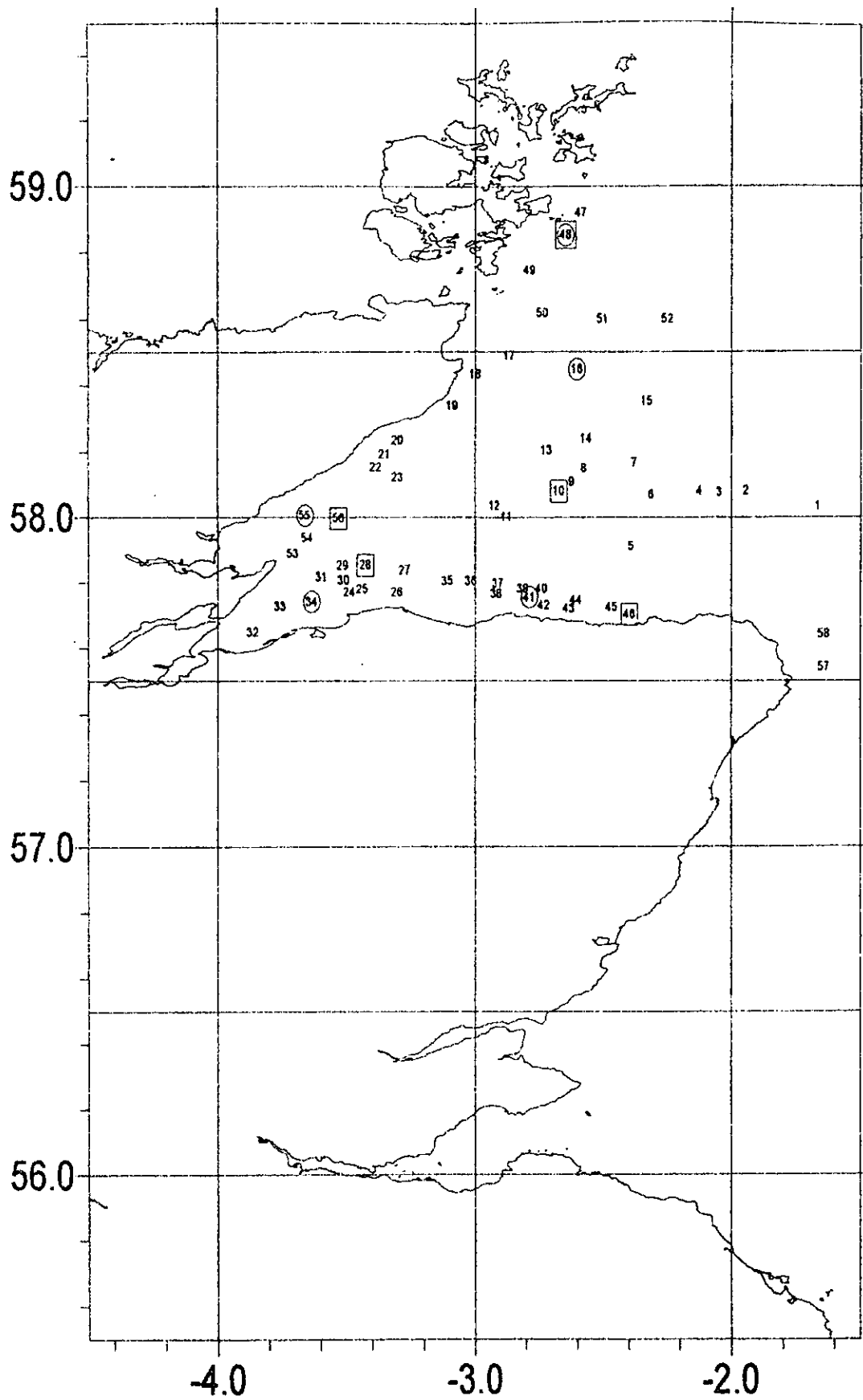
S Davis
5 January 1997

Seen in draft: A Simpson, OIC

TABLE 1

Total number of each by-catch species

Species	Numbers
<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	49
<i>Cancer paguras</i> M	70
<i>Cancer paguras</i> F	90
<i>Chlamys opercularis</i>	61
<i>Lamanda lamanda</i>	11
<i>Lithodes maja</i> M	3
<i>Lithodes maja</i> F	1
<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>	30
<i>Microstomus kitt</i>	5
<i>Necora puber</i> M	1
<i>Neptunea antiqua</i>	153
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	16
<i>Raja naevus</i> M	2
<i>Raja naevus</i> F	4
<i>Scyliorhinus canicula</i> M	1
<i>Scyliorhinus canicula</i> F	1



Ring Measurements

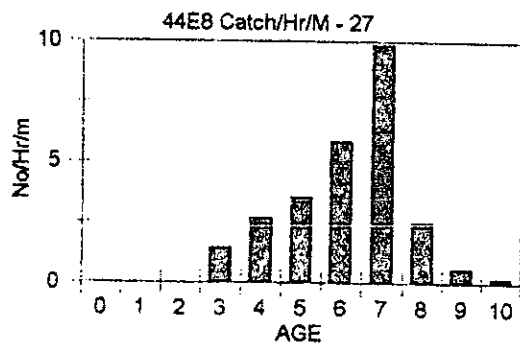
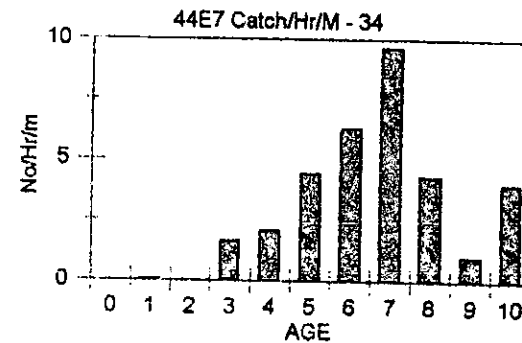
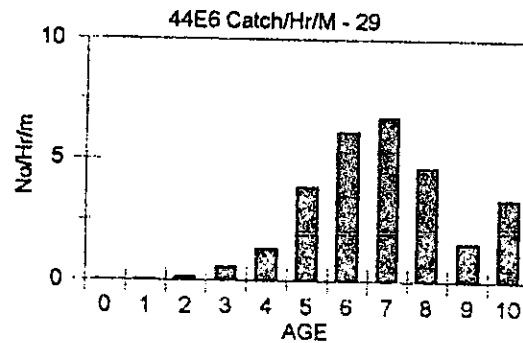
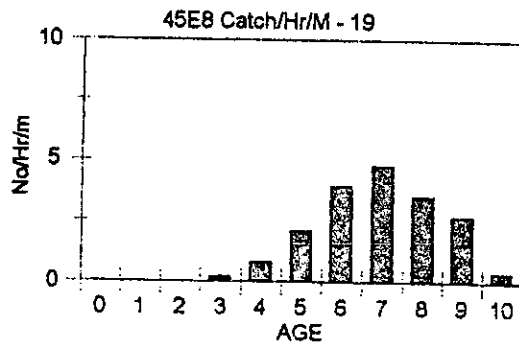
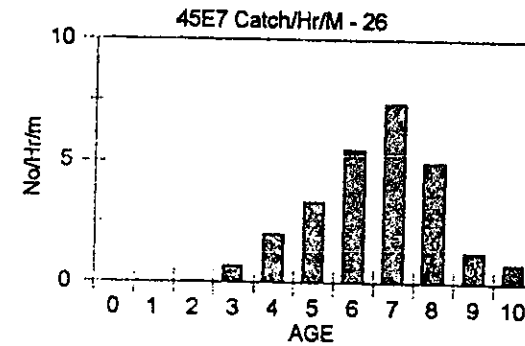
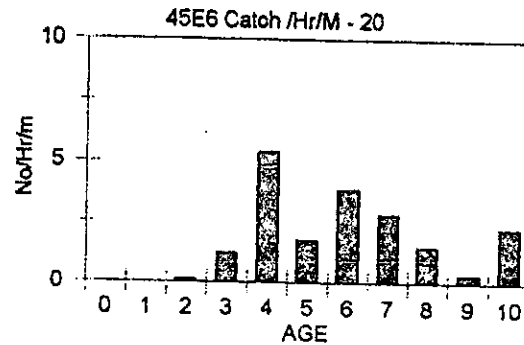
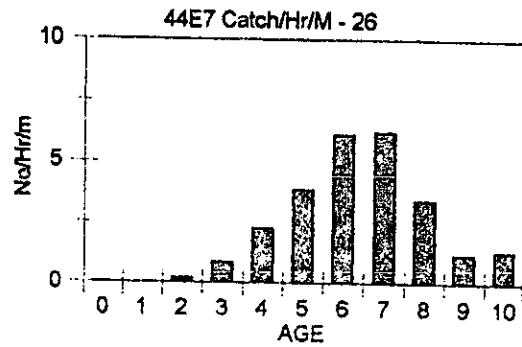


Meat Weight Sample

Figure 2.

East Coast Scallop Survey 1997

Catch rate by age in stat squares



East Coast Scallop Survey 1997

Numbers at size in stat squares

