

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

FRV 'Clupea'

Cruise 1/78

REPORT

23 January - 10 February 1978

Objectives

1. To participate in an international survey of young herring and young gadoids.
2. To obtain live 1-group haddock for use in the aquarium.

Narrative

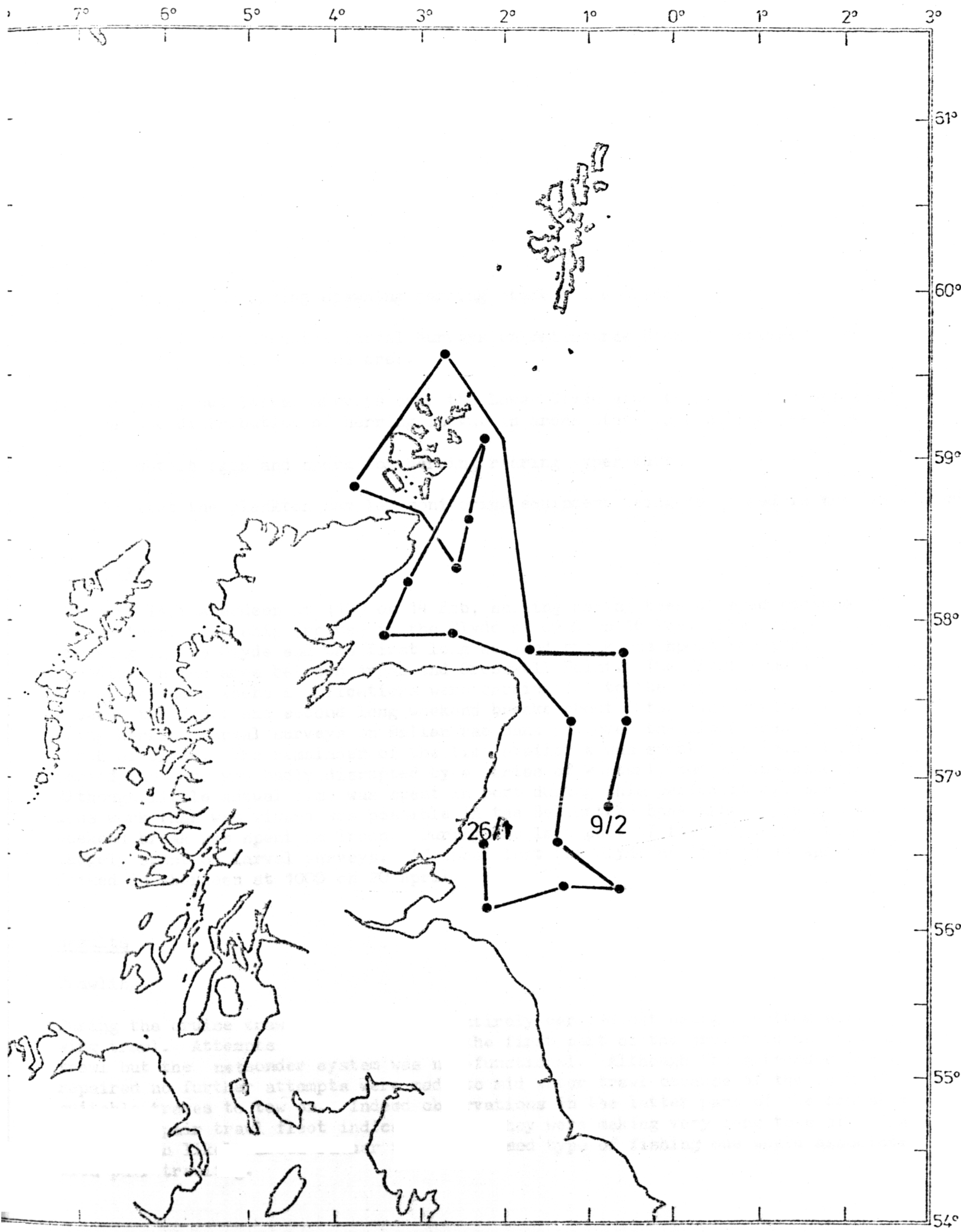
Sailing was delayed until 26 January because of mechanical trouble. Four stations were worked in the Forth/Tay region during 26 and 27 January before 'Clupea' put in at Aberdeen for the weekend. During the week beginning 30 January, a further eight stations were worked off the Aberdeenshire coast and in the Moray Firth. A strong south-easterly air stream that persisted for the entire week made working conditions difficult at times. 'Clupea' docked at Buckie on the evening of 3 February and the scientific staff returned to Aberdeen for the weekend. On 6 February no work was possible due to bad weather but on 7-9 February the remaining six trawling stations were worked. Two hauls for live fish were made off Cruden Bay on 9 February and 'Clupea' finished the cruise at Aberdeen the same night.

Results

1. Young fish survey. Very few young cod, herring or sprats were caught during the cruise: 1-group haddock were also scarce, catch rates only exceeding 100 per hour in two rectangles (41 and 43 E9). Reasonable catches of 2-group haddock were made in 46 E7 and 43 E9. 1-group whiting were generally more abundant; catches of more than 100 fish were made in 41, 42 and 44 E7 and in 44, 45 and 46 E6. . . . 3000 2-group whiting were caught in a haul in 47 E7. The preliminary results of the survey were given to RV 'Tridens' in Aberdeen on 18 February.
2. Collection of live fish. Due to the scarcity of 1-group haddock, none were obtained for the aquarium. However, a number of live cod, flatfish and older haddock were brought to the Laboratory.
3. Other. Five deep-frozen samples of Pandalus were brought back for the Shellfish section.

J R G Hislop
6 March 1978

Seen in draft: G Geddes



FRS Clupea 26/1—9/2/78

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