

R1/6

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

FRV CLUPEA

Cruise 2/82

REPORT

23 February - 25 March 1982

2CR82

AR

### Objectives

1. To lift and relay moorings for 1982 Loch Ewe bag experiments.
2. To set up rafts and deploy bags and hardware.
3. To collect ripe herring and cod gonad material for the Loch Ewe bag experiments.

### Narrative and results

#### Part 1

The scientific staff joined CLUPEA in Buckie on the morning of Monday 23 February and the ship sailed at 12.30 hours arriving in Loch Ewe at 09.30 hours on Wednesday 24 February where most of the equipment and apparatus was off-loaded onto the Loch Ewe rafts and the main raft moorings were made ready for relaying. Dr J C Gamble and Mr T Howell joined the scientific staff on board CLUPEA on Wednesday night. On the the following two days further work was carried out on the raft moorings and in addition two test modules belonging to Wood Group were recovered from Thurnaig and transported by CLUPEA, on Friday 26th to Ullapool where the ship remained for the weekend.

During the weekend of 27 and 28 February the scientific staff travelled, by road, to Aultbea where, despite severe weather conditions, the flotation collars for the Loch Ewe bags were made ready for towing from the slip at the Naval Base. Some further diving work was also carried out at Loch Ewe, to prepare the moorings for the bags.

CLUPEA returned to Loch Ewe on the morning of Monday 1 March but continuing adverse weather conditions did not allow the towing and deployment of the flotation collars and the final installation of the bags and their ancillary fittings until Friday 5 March when the scientific staff disembarked from CLUPEA and the ship proceeded to Ullapool for the weekend. CLUPEA sailed from Ullapool for the Clyde port of Troon on Monday 8 March and, after a scheduled break of several days, the second part of the scientific programme began on Monday 15 March.

#### Part 2

Messrs Seaton, MacLachlan and Dunn joined CLUPEA in Troon at 21.00 hours on Monday 15 March and from Tuesday 16 to Friday 19 March, a series of trawls was carried out off Pladda and on Ballantrae Bank. Opportunity was taken to collect gadoid gonads, in various stages of development, for Dr Clive Craik of SMBA Oban who joined CLUPEA for one day on Wednesday 17 March. The final haul for the week ending

Friday 19 March yielded a substantial number of ripe and running male and female herring and in the evening, alongside in Campbeltown, eggs from these fish were successfully fertilised and plated out. Samples of male and female herring gonads and several intact ripe fish were also supplied to Dr J H Blaxter, SMBA Oban. Mr MacLachlan left CLUPEA on the morning of Saturday 20 March.

CLUPEA spent the weekend of Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 March in Campbeltown and during the second week of the cruise a further series of hauls was carried out in the vicinity of Ailsa Craig and on Ballantrae Bank. Successful shipboard fertilisations of cod and saithe eggs were accomplished and samples of unfertilised and fertilised gadoid eggs were preserved for Dr J Hislop of this laboratory. The night of Wednesday 24 March was spent, at anchor, in Lady Bay, Loch Ryan, in order to minimise steaming time to Ballantrae Bank.

On Thursday 25 March a further small sample of ripe herring was obtained from two hauls on Ballantrae Bank. Scientific staff disembarked from CLUPEA in Troon at 16.30 hours on 25 March and the plated herring eggs, herring gonad material and fertilised cod and saithe eggs successfully transported overnight to Loch Ewe.

Lack of time at the end of part two of the cruise prevented the carrying out of the additional echosounder survey in the areas around Ballantrae Bank and South of Arran.

J Dunn  
D D Seaton  
30 July 1982

Seen in draft: G Geddes

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