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Cruise Report

FRS Clupea

5 March - 14 April 1973

Objectives

1. To carry out surveys on Ballantrae Bank to estimate the production of herring larvae.
2. To carry out an environmental survey of the Clyde during last 2 weeks of the cruise.
3. To collect water for aquarium use.

Narrative

Scientific staff joined "Clupea" on 4 March and the first survey of Ballantrae Bank was carried out on 6 March. During the first 4 weeks 15 surveys of the Bank were done; only 3 days work being lost due to bad weather and other disruptions.

In the last two weeks two surveys of Ballantrae Bank and the environmental survey were completed. Samples of plankton for heavy metal analysis by Pitlochry were collected as well as herring larvae for the Dunstaffnage Laboratory. During this part of the cruise weather was poor and 2½ days were lost.

Water for aquarium use was collected five times during the cruise.

Results

Herring larvae were generally scarce throughout the cruise with the first hatching taking place on 14 March. Concentrations of larvae were found at the south end of the Bank on 20 March and at the north end of the Bank on 10 April.

D W McKay  
G McPherson  
N T Nicoll  
25 April 1973