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IN CONFIDENCE: NOT TO BE QUOTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE LABORATORY
CRUISE REPORT

FRS "CLUPEA"

18 March - 10 April 1974

OBJECTIVES:

1. To carry out larval surveys on Ballantrae Bank and in the Lower Clyde area.
2. To carry out benthos sampling off the Mull of Kintyre.
3. To collect water for herring rearing experiments.

NARRATIVE

Scientific staff travelled to and from the Clyde on the ship, arriving on the 20 March, and leaving the Clyde on the 8 April. Ten surveys were carried out over Ballantrae Bank, with the Lower Clyde area being partially sampled on each of the three weeks of the cruise.

Benthos sampling was attempted off the Mull of Kintyre but was unsuccessful due to the rocky nature of the bottom and the rapid tidal streams in the area.

Water was collected at Ballantrae Bank and in Irvine Bay on four occasions.

RESULTS:

Herring larvae were collected over Ballantrae Bank throughout the period of the cruise. The highest numbers were observed on the 25-27 March. Visual inspection of the samples indicates that the 1974 production of larvae has been the highest for several years.

David McKay
18 April 1974