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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "CLUPEA"

20th May-1st June, 1963

- Objectives:- (1) To undertake a routine trawl survey of the Moray Firth.
(2) To tag suitable concentrations of herring.

The routine survey stations were completed by the evening of the 28th May. Herring were widely distributed over the survey area and at several stations catches of over two baskets per half-hour tow were made. The biggest catch of herring - over 15 baskets per half-hour - was taken east of Tarbot Ness. In the upper Moray Firth the herring had a modal size of 13 cms. East of the Lossiemouth-Helmsdale line the modal size was 16 cms and there was a fair admixture of older fish. West of Burghead very few white-fish were taken. East of this small haddock and whiting occurred in reasonable abundance in most hauls. Fish of a commercial size were notably scarce except in one haul off Buckie when a good catch of large cod was secured.

The remainder of the cruise was spent trawling for herring for tagging. A total of 769 fish, predominantly under 20 cm long, were released.

ALAN SAVILLE
5/6/63.