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

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. "CLUPEA"

May 13th - 24th, 1968

Objective: To carry out a survey of adolescent herring in the Moray Firth.

All stations were completed according to the programme. Trawl catches varied from a $\frac{1}{4}$ basket to 6 baskets of fish per $\frac{1}{2}$ hour tow.

A few herring and sprats were caught at all stations in the Southern half of the Moray Firth with the largest catches to the west of Burghead. The size ranges of herring and sprats were 13-17 cms and 6-14 cms respectively.

Very few commercial sized white fish were caught anywhere in the Firth. The most numerous species were adolescent haddock with a size range of 14-21 cms. Whiting with a size range of 12-19 cms. were also present but in much smaller numbers.

A $\frac{1}{4}$ basket of sandeels were caught at Station 15 and a few individuals at Stations 5 and 13.

D.P. SHARMAN
30.5.68.