

R/1/6

5CR69

7

In confidence:

Not to be quoted  
without reference  
to the laboratory.

## CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. "CLUPEA"

7th April, 1969 - 2nd May, 1969

The objectives of this cruise were:

- a) to compare the performances of three kinds of trawl boards,  
1) flat, 2) V-type, 3) curved, and
- b) to obtain data on the selection of a coullene cod-end covered  
by a large mesh Ulstran net.

Narrative:

The scientific staff joined "Clupea" in Buckie on 7th April and an experimental haul using the curved doors was made just outside the harbour. Having shot the curved doors successfully a high speed run towing the 'shark' was made but this did not tow satisfactorily. Mr. Lawrie and Mr. Strange ~~who had been on board~~ for these trials were returned to Buckie and "Clupea" sailed for fishing grounds off Orkney.

The comparative fishing trawls began off Copinsay on 8th April and continued in this area until 18th April when "Clupea" returned to Buckie. On 21st a successful high speed run with the 'shark' was made, but weather did not allow further trawling until 24th, and ~~for the remainder~~ of this week fishing was confined to the Moray Firth.

On 28th April "Clupea" returned to the Copinsay grounds and fished in this area until 1st May, returning to Buckie on the night of 1st May.

Trawling

Catches at Copinsay were generally good. Some large hauls were made (40 - 50 baskets) composed mainly of haddock with a modal length of 21cm and whiting with a modal length of 24cm. On some occasions substantial catches of commercially sized haddock were made. During the cruise two different cod-ends were used of approximately 70 and 80 mm, both giving reasonable selection results. In addition, on the last two days' fishing the alternate haul method of estimating selection was used.

A detailed report of the trawling and selection results is being prepared.

W.B. Hall  
28.5.69.