

R1/6

6CR83 Part II

In Confidence: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory

FRV 'Clupea'

Cruise 6/83 Part II

ID

REPORT

23 June - 8 July 1983

Objectives

1. To investigate novel codends designed to allow a higher rate of young fish escape.
2. To compare the drag of square and diamond mesh codends full of fish.
3. To measure the engineering performance of and film the 2 commercial rockhopper trawls.

Narrative

Clupea sailed from Buckie at 2300 on 23 June directly for Kirkwall where 2 trawls were put ashore for storage. Work started on the Copinsay grounds on the 24 June and continued through to the 7 July. On all nights, except for 4 when Clupea anchored, she berthed in Kirkwall. Trawling and RCTV work was completed at 1930 on 7 July at Copinsay and Clupea arrived in Buckie at 0230 on 8 July. One half day was lost due to bad weather.

Results

Objectives 2 and 3 of the previous Clupea cruise 6/83 Part I had not been completed due to a winch breakdown and it therefore fell to Part II of the cruise to complete that work. A full assessment of the mesh blocking effect of various small mesh codend covers was made using video and still photography. A final report of this work has been drafted and will be published soon. Videotape records of the mesh blocking caused by various standard codend attachments has been edited into a 7 minute information film.

Little time was left to tackle the objectives originally set for Part II of the cruise. Objectives 1 and 2 were abandoned and objective 3 was only partially completed. Further data was collected to add to the 2 panel trawl drag data (Ref project No D1.11 (a)). However 2 load cells and a spreadmeter were seriously damaged on hard ground and the instrumentation work was prematurely stopped as a result. The commercial trawl being used was filmed for design information. The RCTV system suffered a number of failures and several TV hauls were lost.

J H B Robertson

10 September 1984