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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, BURNHAM ON CROUCH, ESSEX, ENGLAND

1987 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 13A 1987

(PROVISIONAL: not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF:

D J Harper (SIC)
A Franklin
Catherine Fileman
Carole Kelly
Sorell Bifield
Angela Hopkins

DURATION:

Left Lowestoft 1200 hrs 13 October 1987
Arrived Barry 1400 hrs 22 October 1987
All times are Greenwich Mean Time.

LOCALITY:

English Channel
Bristol Channel

AIMS:

1. To conduct a detailed study of trace metal distribution in the Bristol Channel and outer Severn estuary.
2. To collect samples of sea water for trace metal analysis in those areas of the English Channel and Celtic sea not covered for the ICES Baseline study (1985-1987).
3. To collect samples of commercial fish species from the Bristol Channel/Severn estuary (25 specimens of each of those species available). These will be analysed for trace metals and pesticides as part of the routine fish and shellfish monitoring programme.

NARRATIVE

The RV CLIONE sailed from Lowestoft at 1200 hrs and proceeded south to the Straits of Dover, stopping just south of the Thames to clean the sampling and filtration gear.

Sampling began at 0030 h, 14 October on a line running down the English Channel. The sampling was interrupted by poor weather conditions on 14 and 16 October. The outermost stations in the English Channel and Celtic Sea were abandoned in order to take an opportunity to round Lands End and enter the Bristol Channel on 17 October.

A number of North/South transects were sampled for water on 17, 18 and 19 October, whilst dodging the worst of the weather. Fish and water samples were taken from the Swansea Bay area and Mr Franklin was put ashore at Port Talbot on 20 October.

The final two days were spent sampling a tidal cycle in the Newport Channel and a transect down the estuary as far as Barry.

The ship docked at Barry at 1400 h on 22 October.

RESULTS

1. All stations in the Bristol Channel and Severn estuary were completed. Nearly all the samples were analysed for dissolved cadmium, lead and copper, reactive mercury total dissolved mercury and some for total mercury. A number of areas of high concentrations were identified in the Severn estuary and off the Welsh and Cornish coasts; some were assumed to be natural input.
2. The majority of the stations in the English Channel were completed, but the most westerly of these and the outermost line in the Celtic Sea were not sampled due to the weather. The samples were analysed as above.
3. Samples of whiting, palice, sole, rays, dogfish, spurdogs, codling, hake, horse mackerel, gurnard and dab were collected.

D J Harper
22 October 1987

SEEN IN DRAFT: G Sinclair Master
R C Newrick Fishing Skipper

INITIALLED: H W H

DISTRIBUTION

Basic List +
D J Harper
A Franklin
Catherine Fileman
Carole Kelly
Sorell Bifield
Angela Hopkins
R J Law
J E Portmann

R.V. CLIONE CRUISE 13A 13 Oct - 22 Oct. 1987

