

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1972 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 15

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

STAFF

M Greer Walker
G P Arnold
C R Heed
W L Huggins
L J Tong (MAF New Zealand)
P Anthony (DAFS, Aberdeen)

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1730 h 17 November
Arrived Lowestoft 1700 h 30 November
All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

Southern North Sea

AIM

To determine the efficiency of CORELLA's Granton trawl for catching plaice fitted with acoustic transponding tags by extending the series of experiments carried out on CLIONE 9, 13/71, 13 and 14/72.

NARRATIVE

CLIONE reached IJmuiden at 0430 h 18 November. Bad weather and a deteriorating forecast delayed sailing until 1755 h. During this time the equipment was checked and tested and the two visitors made familiar with its operation. Passage was made overnight to the more sheltered suffolk coast and 19 November was spent dodging in the Southwold area. On 20 November the weather cleared sufficiently for a cod to be released at 1002 h. This fish was tracked until 1400 h 22 November (52 h). At 1418 h course was set for the Black Bank. 23 and 24 November were spent dodging in this area and with a forecast of continuing northerly gales CLIONE returned to the Suffolk coast arriving at 0430 h, 25 November. At 0930 h the same day range tests were carried out on selected acoustic tags for Mr Storeton-West, and at 1140 h a plaice was released in the Shipwash-Gabbard area. However, this fish was never on suitable ground for trawling and was abandoned at 1833 h. With an improving forecast, CLIONE proceeded overnight to a position 15 m E of Smith's Knoll, arriving at 0500 h 26 November. Six fish were released and three attacked by CORELLA between then and 1200 h, 27 November when increasing gales made work impossible. Shelter was again sought off Southwold and a cod was released at 1930 h. This track was concluded at 1000 h 29 November due to a hydraulic leak. CLIONE reached Harwich at 1815 h where the dome was removed, and sailed again 0600 h, 30 November for Lowestoft. During this journey the wreck of the BURTONIA was located and surveyed for Trinity House.

18
7
25
27
3
30

SUMMARY TABLE

ORIGINAL POSITION	NOT HERDED		HERDED		TOTALS
	NOT CAUGHT	CAUGHT	NOT CAUGHT	CAUGHT	
Outside doors > 5 n	2	0	-	-	2
< 5 n	1	0	-	-	1
TOTALS	3	0	-	-	3
Inside doors: doors	3	0	1	0	4
bridle	1	0	0	0	1
wingend	1	0	0	0	1
net	1	2	0	0	3
TOTALS	6	2	1	0	9
GRAND TOTALS	9	2	1	0	12

RESULTS

1. Granton trawl efficiency (Table attached).
2. Two cod were tracked for 52 and 39 h.
3. Range tests were carried out on particular acoustic tags for Mr Storeton-West.
4. The wreck of the BURTONIA was located and surveyed for Trinity House.

GEAR

ARL SCANNER

1. During testing at IJmuiden the transducer remained fixed in the horizontal mode due to a malfunction in the mode ran circuit. This was rectified.
2. Three hydraulic fittings failed causing gear box and hydraulic oil leaks.

ACOUSTIC TAGS

1. Six tags were not recovered.
2. Range tests showed that a modified receiver gave a 25 per cent increase in range of the tag.

THE DOME

The dome cover was completely destroyed after a total of 570 miles. Its renewal is in hand.

M Greer Walker
5 December 1972

SEEN IN DRAFT MRS
 AHB

INITIALED AJL

DISTRIBUTION

Basic list
M Greer Walker
G P Arnold
C R Hood
I J Tong
P Anthony
J Bridger