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

1981 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 8  
(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF

J D Riley (NIC)  
A R Child  
T Watson  
P Hudson  
D Palmer

DURATION

9-26 June - Left Lowestoft at 1400 h 9 June  
Arrived Lowestoft at 0450 h 26 June (All times G.M.T.)

LOCALITY

S North Sea and Channel

AIMS

1. To define the distribution of 0-group gadoids and clupeoids using the International young gadoid pelagic trawl and the Lowestoft 2m frame trawl, and to collect data of the occurrence of medusae and macroplankton.
2. To define the spawning areas of gadoids, sole and bass in ICES areas VIID & E using a 50cm HSTN, to collect the young pelagic eggs.
3. To launch the Nab towers current meter rig.

NARRATIVE

The HSTN sampling started on 9 June when inshore stations were sampled on the way to Dungeness. Six transects of six stations each, were made between 1°E and 5°W of the Channel (ICES Areas VIID & E). The multicore electric cable developed faults and these became progressively worse necessitating the cutting off of about 50m of cable eventually and reliance on the mechanical flowmeter. The current meter was deployed off Nab Tower at 0449 h 8 July. On completion of the HSTN Survey on 13 July, a grid of stations based on ICES rectangles was worked in VIIE using the frame trawl. On entering VIID each station was sampled by the frame trawl and the IYGPT. Most of a similar grid south of 54°N was sampled in a like manner in the southern North Sea.

RESULTS

1. Low concentrations of 0-group whiting were found W of 5°W and E of 2°W in the Channel and no cod anywhere in VII D & E. In the North Sea low densities of whiting were found mainly E of 3°E or N of 53°N. 0-group cod were found in low densities off the north Norfolk coast only. Concentrations of over 1000/h fishing of non commercial gadoids were caught at some stations in the eastern Channel. Sprat, herring, pilchard and anchovy were taken as by-catch.

2. The HSTN transects were completed satisfactorily and the samples returned to the laboratory for analysis.
3. The Nab Tower current meter rig was deployed as required.

J D Riley  
9 July 1981

SEEN IN DRAFT: G R Oliver - Master  
R Graham - Fishing Skipper

INITIALLED: DJG

DISTRIBUTION:

- Basic List
- J D Riley
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The following information was obtained from the HSTN transects completed on 9 July 1981. The results are given in the attached report.

The current meter rig was deployed as required and the following data were obtained:

Before the start of the HSTN transects, the current meter rig was checked and found to be in good working order. The current meter was set to record current at 10 minute intervals. The HSTN transects were completed satisfactorily and the samples returned to the laboratory for analysis.

The following information was obtained from the HSTN transects completed on 9 July 1981. The results are given in the attached report.

