

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

1975 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 9

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

STAFF

D J Symonds
J H Nichols
Mrs B M Thompson
M W Easey
D M Hyland (Fleetwood)

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1500h 3 June

Arrived Lowestoft 0930h 14 June

All times are Greenwich Mean Time.

LOCALITY

Irish and Celtic Seas

AIMS

1. To carry out a survey of the west coast of England and Wales and the south-west coast of Scotland from the Scilly Islands to the Mull of Galloway for pelagic fish eggs and larvae using a 50cm high-speed townet.
2. If time permits, to carry out a preliminary survey for 0-group gadoids in the Northern Irish Sea using a Boothbay net.

NARRATIVE

CLIONE left Lowestoft at 1500h 3 June and proceeded to the west coast. Despite the failure of the telephone link between the bridge and aft, difficulties with the electronic flowmeter and depth gauge on the high-speed townet and the warpmeter, free flow calibrations were completed successfully off the Isle of Wight and the survey started off the Scillies at 0830h on 5 June. Excellent weather, except for some fog in the southern part of the area during the first three days, allowed the survey to be carried out uninterrupted. The last station, SE of the Wolf Rock, was completed at 1430h 12 June and, after carrying out further calibrations, CLIONE proceeded to Lowestoft where she docked at 0930h 14 June.

A station and track plot is attached.

RESULTS

1. Eighty nine high-speed townet stations were completed. Few fish eggs were taken south of Cardigan Bay, whereas fish larvae, mostly clupeids, were abundant throughout the survey area except in the Bristol channel.

2. Five hauls with the Boothbay net were made in the northern Irish Sea. Catches were poor and only small numbers of 0-group gadoids were taken. Large numbers of a Brachyuran zoea were caught at a station 20 miles off the Great Orme.

D J Symonds
(Naturalist in Charge)
23 June 1975

SEEN IN DRAFT JRF (Master)
GFL (Fishing Skipper)

INITIALLED AJL

DISTRIBUTION

Basic list +

- D J Symonds
- J H Nichols
- Mrs B M Thompson
- M W Easey
- D Hyland (Fleetwood)
- J D Riley

