

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD  
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK NR33 0HT, ENGLAND**

**1993 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME**

**REPORT: RV CORYSTES: CRUISE 2(a)**

**STAFF:**

J A Durance (SIC)  
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N J Faber  
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**DURATION:**

Left Lowestoft 0600 h 3 February  
Arrived Lowestoft 0830 h 7 February  
All times are Greenwich Mean Time

**LOCALITY:**

Southern North Sea

**AIMS:**

Following the failure of CIROLANA 1/93 to complete the North Sea JONUS and Phosphate stations because of bad weather, the priorities of this cruise were revised as follows:

1. To examine nutrient distribution from river inputs to the North Sea.
2. To take samples over a grid in the Southern North Sea to improve knowledge of the seasonal signal in nutrients particularly phosphate.
3. To identify and quantify the fate of river borne nutrients entering the Wash and Humber Estuary.

If aims 1 and 2 are completed there will be insufficient time to attempt aim 3. It is retained as an alternative should weather conditions prevent the offshore work of aims 1 and 2.

**NARRATIVE:**

RV CORYSTES sailed at 0600 h on 3 February and proceeded to the first CTD station (NS1) on the JONUS North Sea grid. This station off the coast of Norfolk was begun at 0930 h and was followed by alternate surface water samples and CTD stations across to the Dutch coast. The final station (NS10) being completed by 2313 h. Overnight and the following day the vessel returned to the north Norfolk coast along the northernmost line of the nutrient grid

taking surface water samples only. From 1834 h to 0100 h on the 5 February a line of CTD stations (NS37 to NS42) off the Norfolk coast was completed. Then RV CORYSTES began the surface water samples of the rest of the nutrient grid taking in the three JONUS stations (NS12 to NS14) off the Dutch coast en route. This part of the survey was completed by 0307 h on 6 February. The final leg of the cruise, alternate CTD and surface water samples from the Hook of Holland to the Thames estuary and back to Lowestoft (JONUS stations NS16 to NS35) was completed by 0522 h on 7 February and the vessel docked at 0830 h.

**RESULTS:**

1. All of the JONUS North Sea stations NS1 to NS42 were completed with the exception of NS15, which was omitted when it was thought there might be insufficient time to complete the survey. The CTD for station NS16 had to be worked approximately 2 miles NNW of the nominal position to avoid a restricted area at the entrance to Europort.
2. The North Sea nutrient grid was completed.
3. There was insufficient time to attempt any of the sampling in the Wash or off the Humber.
4. All samples were successfully input to the AEP LSDM database, the first occasion that the package has been used at sea.

J A Durance  
6 May 1993

SEEN IN DRAFT: MJW, MJR

INITIALLED: PAG

DISTRIBUTION:-

Basic List +  
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DATA: CRUISE CORYSTES 2A/93

SHOWING :  
CRUISE TRACK  
STATION POSITION  
COASTLINE

