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

1987 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: CHARTERED COMMERCIAL VESSELS AND PUSHNETTING  
(PROVISIONAL: Not to be cited without prior reference to the author)

STAFF:

C L Whiting  
R S Millner

DURATION:

7-10 April 1987

LOCATION:

Off Lowestoft

AIMS:

1. To estimate the post-winter population of juvenile sole.
2. To collect sole samples for condition index and fat content estimation.

NARRATIVE:

The beam trawl survey was completed on 7 and 9 April 1987, using the chartered inshore FV SUNDANCE of Lowestoft. Pushnet sites were sampled at low water on 10 April 1987.

RESULTS:

1. Twentythree hauls of 10 minutes duration were made using the standard 2 metre beam trawl. At 15 of these positions a modified oyster dredge was towed simultaneously with the beam trawl. In addition, 3 hauls of 20 minutes duration were made with the beam trawl only to fish for sole.

Five push net sites were sampled.

All fish caught were identified and measured. Surface salinity and sediment samples were collected, and surface temperature observations were made at each station. Observations on shrimp by-catch were also recorded.

2. Live 1 group sole were collected and held in tanks for 24 hours, then deep-frozen for laboratory estimation of condition factors.

GENERAL:

I would like to thank skipper Rodriguez for his friendly help and co-operation.

C L Whiting  
14 April 1987

INITIALLED: D J G

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +  
C L Whiting  
R S Millner  
Skipper A Rodriguez  
Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee