

lts 2

Not to be quoted without reference to the author

R. V. CORELLA

Report for Cruise 3/1967

Staff: C. T. Macer	Duration: 13-28 July
M. E. Hurst	(All times B.S.T.)
J. M. G. Gregory	
Dr. Gazey	} Birmingham University (19th-24th)
Mr. Goddard	

Aim

To survey the northern Irish Sea and south-west Scottish waters for sand eels (Ammodytidae).

Narrative

CORELLA sailed at 1400 hrs on the 13th, having been delayed for three days by engine room repairs. Adjustments and tests had also been made to the main winch brakes, and these were then sea tested by a trawl haul off Lowestoft, during which they were satisfactory. After landing the winch engineer (Submarine Cables) and a Marconi engineer (radar adjustments) by Gorleston pilot boat at 2130 hrs on the 13th, the ship steamed south for the Irish Sea, where she arrived at the first station east of Douglas (Isle of Man) at 1255 hrs on the 16th. On this day and the next the areas worked were King William and Bahama Banks, St. Bees, Solway, Wigtown Bay, Peel and Dundrum Bay. During this period the winch brakes again failed and the guiding-on gear jammed.

On the 18th, Rigg Bank, Carnlough Bay, Red Bay (all north-east Irish coast) and then inshore grounds west of Kintyre were surveyed, but found to be too rough for the gear. The ship steamed to the Clyde and work continued here until 1530 hrs on the 19th, when CORELLA put into Ardrossan for water, winch repairs and to pick up Dr. Gazey and Mr. Goddard. She left Ardrossan at 1600 hrs on the 20th and steamed to a position off Portrush which was worked on the 21st. The inshore areas between here and Tory Island were next surveyed but found to be too rough, so the next two days were spent working northwards - Laggan Bay (Islay), Klondyke Ground, Dubh Artach, Stanton Banks and Skerryvore.

An overnight passage to the Irish Sea was made on the 23rd, bad weather having descended on the Malin area. The ship put into Douglas between 1130 and 1330 hrs on the 24th to obtain medical attention for the Fourth Engineer, and Dr. Gazey and Mr. Goddard took the opportunity to disembark.

On leaving, the LT Nr. 3 trawl, which had been used on all previous hauls, was changed for the Vinge trawl and this was worked on the 24th and 25th from off Douglas to the Great Orme area, via Morecambe and Liverpool Bays. CORELLA left this area at 2000 hrs on the 25th and arrived at Lowestoft at 1300 hrs on the 28th.

Results

1. No large concentrations of sand eels were located and of those that were caught G. semisquamatus and A. lanceolatus predominated. A. marinus (which forms over 90% of the North Sea catch) was very scarce. The best catch of sand eels was only  $\frac{3}{4}$  basket per hour off Douglas, G. semisquamatus predominating. Off North Wales  $\frac{1}{2}$  basket per hour of A. lanceolatus was caught. Elsewhere they were scarce or completely absent.

In the Irish Sea cod predominated off Douglas, and small plaice and dabs elsewhere. In the Clyde, haddock predominated, though off Loch Ryan, 4 baskets per hour of sprats were caught. Catches were mixed in the Klondyke/Stanton Banks area, consisting of coalfish (3 baskets/hour), gurnards, horse mackerel and a mixture of small gadoids. Catches at Dubh Artach consisted mainly of mackerel.

/2. Brill...

2. Brill (11) and Turbot (7) were sampled and some elasmobranch guts were preserved.

3. Tests with the Birmingham acoustic telemeter showed that modifications are necessary.

C. T. Macer  
27th July, 1967

Seen in draft: A. H. Button  
T. A. Sutton

Initialled: A.J.L.

Distribution

Dr. Cole  
Mr. Lee  
Captain Aldiss  
Dr. Cushing  
Mr. Burd  
Mr. Garrod  
Mr. Bolster  
Mr. Cattley  
Mr. Corlett  
Dr. Harden Jones  
Mr. Margetts  
Mr. Trout  
Mr. Iles  
Mr. Holden  
Dr. Jamieson  
Dr. Purdom  
Mr. Bridger  
Mr. Mitson  
Mr. Tungate  
Mr. Williams  
Mr. Wood  
Mr. Adams  
Mr. Mills  
Mr. Kay  
Miss Conolly  
General Lab.  
Lab. Registry  
Library (2)  
Mr. Whiting  
Mr. Simpson  
Dr. Reynolds  
Chief Inspector  
All District Inspectors  
Fisheries Registry  
Captain Craig  
Mr. Revell  
Skipper Button  
Mr. Buchanan Wollaston  
Mr. Baird, DAFS  
Director, Dublin  
Mr. Glover  
Hydrographic Department  
Dr. Lucas  
Director, N.I.O.  
Dr. Peachey  
Mr. Shelbourne  
W.F.A.  
Director, IJmuiden  
Mr. Macer  
Mr. Hurst  
Mr. Gregory  
Mr. Goddard  
Dr. Gazey  
Mr. Saville  
Mr. Raitt

) Birmingham University