

R. V. CORELLAReport for Cruise 8/67

Staff J. G. K. Harris
 B. C. Bedford
 D. W. R. Rout
 L. Emerson

Duration:
 1800 hrs. 13th November -
 1330 hrs. 24th November

Aims

1. To tag large mature cod in the Western Central North Sea, in order to try to establish their spawning grounds.
2. To obtain cod blood samples from fish in this stock for Dr. Jamieson's immuno-genetic studies.
3. To survey 0-group cod in the area between the western edge of Dogger Bank and the English coast.

Narrative

CORELLA left Lowestoft at 18.00 hrs, 13th November and fishing was begun at Brucey's Garden at 0900 hrs, 14th November. During the next four days, Bayman's Hole, Farne Deep, the Gut and N.W. Rough were all fished but catches of cod were poor. It was therefore decided to try the south western and southern edges of the Dogger and grounds from Skate Hole to the Tail End were fished during the remainder of the cruise. Cod were again scarce on all grounds, with best catches being made in the Silver Pits.

A single haul for live fish for the laboratory tanks was made off Smiths Knoll on the morning of 24th November and CORELLA docked at 1330 hrs.

Results

1. 124 cod were tagged. These were mostly large mature fish and were released fairly uniformly over the area covered by the cruise.
2. Approximately 90 cod blood samples were taken from those fish which were unsuitable for tagging.
3. The 0-group cod survey was somewhat negative, only about 30 being caught in all, despite regular large hauls of small (and possibly including 0-group) haddock and whiting.

Miscellaneous

1. A range of sizes of cod from those used for blood samples were brought back to Lowestoft for echo-sounder trials at the laboratory.
2. All plaice caught were measured and their sex and maturity recorded and the few soles caught were tagged and released. These were to back up R. V. CLIONE Cruise 12.
3. Some concern had been expressed over how fish intended for tagging would stand up to the wash of the screw during hauling. The evidence on this cruise was that the cod-end catch was not seriously affected unless there were very few fish caught, but that the smaller fish in the cover were often badly scaled.
4. Warp meters were tested on three occasions and were found to be very satisfactory providing that a suitable method of anchoring them can be devised.

J. G. K. Harris

21st November, 1967

Initialled: AJL

/Distribution

Distribution

Dr. Cole
Mr. Lee
Captain Aldiss
Dr. Cushing
Mr. Hill
Mr. Burd
Mr. Garrod
Mr. Bolster
Mr. Cattley
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 Snowling
Mr. Buchanan Wollaston
Mr. Baird, DAFS
Director, Dublin
Mr. Glover
Hydrographic Department
Dr. Lucas
Director, NFO
Dr. Peachey
Mr. Shelbourne
WFA
Director, IJmuiden
British Trawler's Federation

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