

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

1977 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA: CRUISE 8

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

STAFF

V J Bye
D Thompson
W A Leggitt
D J Pinkney

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 0750 31 May
Arrived Lowestoft 1050 h 7 June
All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

Southern North Sea

AIMS

1. To collect live turbot, brill, dab and sand eels for laboratory experiments.
2. To hybridize brill and turbot.
3. To collect samples from plaice for genetic studies.
4. To collect blood from cod, plaice and dabs for steroid analysis.
5. To collect sand eels and small gadoids for fish food.
6. To collect live squid, crabs and cottids for UEA.

NARRATIVE

CORELLA commenced trawling for sand eels at the Outer Dowsing Bank on the afternoon of 31 May. However, the sand eel cod end was in very poor condition and rapidly became so badly torn as to be unusable. Attempts to catch sand eels with a standard cod end with fine mesh liner proved unsuccessful, so we moved to Mablethorpe Bay to fish for brill and turbot.

CORELLA returned to Lowestoft on the morning tide of 3 May to offload live fish and frozen samples and collect a replacement sand eel cod end. We left Lowestoft on the same tide and proceeded to the North West Rough where we fished until the early afternoon of 5 June. We abandoned fishing in rapidly deteriorating weather and proceeded to the Indefatigable Bank area to resume fishing for sand eels. We worked in this area throughout the 6 June until in the evening we lost the majority of the net on an unmarked fastener. CORELLA then returned to Lowestoft.

RESULTS

All the stated aims of the cruise were achieved, although no live squid were returned to Lowestoft.

Hearts were collected from large plaice for Dr Greer Walker.

Victor J Bye (NIC)
7 June 1977

SEEN IN DRAFT: JEB (Master)
ETB (Fishing Skipper)

INITIALLED: AJL

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list
V J Bye
D Thompson
W A Leggitt
D J Pinkney