

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

1970 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA: CRUISE 10

(PROVISIONAL: Note to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF

C E Purdom
P Scholes
P D Wallace
S Flatman

DURATION

1 November-6 November

LOCALITY

Southern North Sea

AIMS

1. To test all ship's systems following repairs and refit.
2. To collect live fish for hatchery and genetics use.
3. To collect offshore sea-water.
4. To make a routine dab and plaice survey on Cleaver Bank and collect grab samples
5. To collect phytoplankton from Cleaver Bank for Mr Wimpenny.
6. To make a standard echo survey for herring.
7. To collect samples of Alcyonidium and Halicloma if found
(File 759B Min 55 & 56)
8. To collect small gadoids for Dr A Jones.
9. To collect 50 large cod (ungutted) for Mr Vince.

NARRATIVE

RV CORELLA left Lowestoft at 11.15 hours, 1 November and proceeded to test ship's systems in the roads. Tests were satisfactorily completed by 14.30 hours after which the scientific programme was started. Weather conditions were unfavourable for trawling during the first 24 hours of the cruise and two legs of the echo survey were completed starting from Smiths' Knoll. Calmer weather prevailed on the morning of 2 November and the echo survey was discontinued at the end of the westward leg north of Smiths' Knoll. Trawling began at 11.00 hours at Smiths' Knoll and all the plaice required were obtained by 19.00 hours. Some dabs, soles and turbot were also retained. With rapidly deteriorating weather, the ship proceeded to the

Lowestoft roads and anchored for the night. Live fish and a sample of cod were off-loaded at 11.00 hours 3 November and the ship then returned to the roads. Westerly gales prevented further work until the morning of 4 November. The ship then proceeded to the point at which the echo survey had been discontinued on 2 November and completed the survey north to the New Zealand ground area. Weather conditions remained poor, with strong westerly winds and a lot of swell. After dodging westwards during the night of 4 November, to a point 40 miles south of the Cleaver Bank, it became apparent that a days work on the Bank was impossible. Plankton and offshore sea-water were therefore collected and at 09.00 hours, 5 November, the ship began the return to Lowestoft, arriving in the roads at 22.30 hours. The ship berthed at 14.40 hours 6 November.

RESULTS

No work was possible on the Cleaver Bank and aims, 4, 7 and 8 were not achieved. All other planned work was completed. On the echo survey, large plume traces were not apparent during any part of the survey but small plume traces were found between 15 and 20 miles North of Smiths' Knoll LV. There were plenty of flock traces in the region of the Brown Bark ground and 20 miles East of Smiths' Knoll LV.

C. E. Purdom
9.11.70

SEEN IN DRAFT

Captain W Craig
Skipper C W Snowling

INITIALLED

AJL

DISTRIBUTION

Basic List

Dr Purdom
Mr Scholes
Mr Wallace
S Flatman