

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

1975 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA: CRUISE 10

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

STAFF

W G Parnell

B C Mumford

C N Humphreys

M Macdonald

J Wiggins

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1920h 21 June

Arrived Lowestoft 1535h 4 July

All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

North Sea

AIMS

1. To participate in a comparative fishing and stratification experiment for 0-group gadoids.
2. To work any part of the 0-group gadoid survey grid which may not have been completed by CORELLA on the previous cruise.
3. To duplicate tows in areas worked by CORELLA on the previous cruise in order to estimate variability of catch with time.

NARRATIVE

After a delay in the sailing date to enable winch and engine repairs to be carried out, CORELLA left Lowestoft at 1920h 21 June and steamed on one engine to rectangle E19 to the east of the Shetlands to participate in a comparative fishing experiment with CLIONE, DANA JOHAN HJORT and TRIDENS. Fishing with the International Young Gadoid Trawl commenced at 0610h 24 June and six one hour tows were made during that day. On 25 June six half hour tows were made at varying depths in the stratification experiment, together with six shots of the gear to the different depths to estimate the component of the catch taken by shooting and hauling. Bad weather then brought the experiment to a premature end. CORELLA was forced to dodge from 1000h 26 June until 0800h 27 June.

In poor weather conditions on 27 June four further tows were made in E19 in a comparative fishing exercise with EXPLORER which had not been able to participate earlier due to engine trouble. CORELLA then left the area at 1500h 27 June and steamed south to complete the squares allocated to England in the North Sea 0-group gadoid survey grid. Four squares were completed off

the Danish coast on 29 June before CORELLA docked at Esberg at 0709h 30 June to take on fresh water. CORELLA sailed again at 1815h the same day. The remaining nine squares of the survey were completed by 0942h 3 July when course was set for Lowestoft. A dinoflagellate sample was collected off the East Anglian coast for Dr Dodge at 0835h 4 July and CORELLA docked at Lowestoft at 1535h the same day.

RESULTS

1. Ten hauls were made in rectangle E19 as part of the comparative fishing experiment. Norway Pout was the most dominant species, though catches were very variable ranging from 31 to 13,388 '0' group fish per hours' tow. Haddock were rather less abundant, numbers ranging from 179 to 1230 '0' groups per hours' tow. Whiting and Cod were also taken though in much smaller numbers.

2. In the stratification experiment most Whiting, Cod and Haddock were taken in the top 20m of the water column, while the Norway Pout were mainly taken between 40m and 60m from the surface. However, full interpretation of these data cannot be made until the data collected by all the participating vessels is collated.

3. In the 0-group survey a total of only six Whiting, two Cod, two Haddock and one Norway Pout were caught in the twenty three squares west of 4° E and South of 57° N. The largest number of gadoids in the English allocation of squares was taken in L12 and M12 off the Danish coast where a total of 272 Whiting and 180 Haddock was taken in the two squares.

W G Parnell
24 July 1975

SEEN IN DRAFT: J E W B

E J B

INITIALLED: A J L

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list +

W G Parnell

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