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

1978 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA: CRUISE 11

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

STAFF:

FSM 1 P Scholes  
A Urquhart  
B Croucher  
R Harrop  
Kwoh Chung-Hai

RSG 1 D Hughes  
J Swainson  
M Davies  
G Mitchelson

DURATION:

Left Lowestoft 1310 h, 26 July

Arrived Lowestoft 2310 h, 9 August

LOCALITY:

Black Bank, Texel (FSM 1) Spurn to Tyne (RSG 1)

AIMS:

1. To evaluate with CLIONE the efficiency of the Granton trawl when rigged with a door to door tickler chain.
2. To obtain age/length data on cod and whiting in statistical region 6.
3. To lay five current meterebuoys.

NARRATIVE:

CORELLA sailed at 1310 h GMT on 26 July as planned and, after running the measured mile to check the log, anchored at Corton to await the arrival of a missing crew member. On the morning of the 27th with a full complement the ship steamed to the working area off Texel to rendezvous with RV CLIONE and began work that evening. Work continued in this area until 1600 h, 2 August when CORELLA left for Den Helder to water ship. She returned to join CLIONE on the following morning but work was held up for a few hours on this day by squally weather and only one trawl haul was made. CORELLA continued working with CLIONE until 1300 h, 5 August. By this date all the tagged fish available on CLIONE had been used and course was set for Lowestoft to load buoys and gear for the second part of the cruise (Aim 3). The ship arrived at the MAFF Quay at 0830 h, 6 August and FSM 1 staff were landed.

RSG staff joined CORELLA on the following morning and loaded the gear for servicing the five long term current meter stations Spurn, Jonsis 1, Jonsis 2, Tyne and Tees. The ship sailed at 1030 h, 7 August.

The Spurn rig was successfully recovered and relayed by 2000 h and passage to the

Tyne buoy (the northernmost rig) was made overnight. Arrival at Tyne was delayed by the deteriorating weather conditions so that servicing was not complete until 0900 h, 8 August. Both Tees and Jonsis 1 were successfully serviced by 1230 h and 1800 h respectively on the same day and Jonsis 2 by 0500 h, 9 August.

CORELLA docked at Lowestoft 2310 h, 9 August and the gear was unloaded the following morning.

**RESULTS:**

Aim 1. A total of 26 plaice fitted with transponding acoustic tags were released singly from CLIONE and while she kept station and monitored range and bearing of the fish target CORELLA attempted to run in past CLIONE and catch each fish with her trawl gear. If CORELLA came in too far away or too near and the fish target was outside the path of the doors this was recorded as a miss. If the CORELLA's gear as reported by intercom from CLIONE interacted with the fish this was recorded as a hit. If at the time of CORELLA's run in the target was obscured by gear noise or was temporarily lost and the fish was not captured this attack was recorded as an abort.

There were 45 attacks made on the target fish and of these 5 were abortive, 9 were misses, 31 were hits and in 19 of these the fish was captured. Of the 40 valid attacks more than 75% were successful due to the skill of the Master, Fishing Skipper and Mate.

Aim 2. Stratified otolith samples of cod and whiting were obtained for the months of July and August from Region 6.

P Scholes  
D Hughes  
15 August 1978

SEEN IN DRAFT: GC  
RCN

INITIALLED: AJL

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- Basic List
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- A Urquhart
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