

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

1981 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA : CRUISE 11

STAFF:

D Key
P M Connor
G Pickett)
P E Davidson) part time
D Miller

DURATION:

Left Lowestoft 1030 h 2 September
Arrived Lowestoft 1400 h 19 September

AIMS:

- i) To assess stocks of scallops in Cardigan Bay including that part within the three mile limit.
- ii) To determine stocks of scallops in ICES rectangle ZZ99 (E5 29) off Plymouth.
- iii) Comparison of efficiency of Newhaven and French dredges where ground permits.
- iv) Brief examination of the grounds in the eastern Channel and to the west of Lundy Island if time available.

NARRATIVE:

CORELLA arrived off Falmouth to commence work on the morning of 4 September and the survey grid of stations was completed on the morning of the 11th. The ship put in to Plymouth at 1213 h on 11 th and sailed for Cardigan Bay at 0730 h on 12th. The Cardigan Bay Fishery was examined by working a grid of stations during four days (13th to 16th) and the ship then steamed overnight to the Lundy Island area. Work was curtailed here due to impeding bad weather and the return passage to Lowestoft was commenced at 1030 h on 17th; CORELLA docked at Lowestoft at 1400 h 19 September.

RESULTS:

i) 67 stations were worked in Cardigan Bay using Newhaven dredges. The area within the 3 mile fishing limit produced relatively few scallops but commercially viable catches were obtained from some areas of the main fishery.

ii), iii) 90 stations were worked in the Plymouth/Falmouth area using both Newhaven dredges and a French dredge towed simultaneously. The French dredge gave generally better results than the Newhaven dredges on these grounds and good catches of large scallops were taken from some of the offshore stations. On inshore grounds sizes of scallops were generally smaller.

iv) Only 7 hauls were made on grounds in the vicinity of Lundy Island before it was necessary to leave the area due to impending bad weather. No commercial densities of scallops were found on these stations.

All scallops caught from each dredge were kept separate and measured, the age

assessed and gonad condition determined.

Samples of shells from selected areas were retained for further detailed growth assessment.

D Key
28 September 1981

SEEN IN DRAFT:

- G S
- R C N
- E E

INITIALED:

D J G

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +

D Key

P M Connor

G Pickett

P E Davidson

D Miller

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