

MR DALLIE

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

1973 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA: CRUISE 18

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

STAFF

- B C Mumford
- V J Bye
- G T Thacker
- Mrs B M Thompson

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1000 h, 11 December

Arrived Lowestoft 1645 h, 19 December

All times Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

Southern North Sea

AIMS

1. To determine the reactions of plaice to a Granton trawl by extending the series of experiments carried out on cruises CORELLA 13 and 18/1971, 15, 16, 17 and 18/1972 and 3, 12, 16 and 17/1973.
2. Capture of live dabs for use in laboratory experiments.
3. Collection of fish gonads and brains for histological examination.
4. Collection of fish pineal, pituitary and hypothalamus glands for hormone analysis.
5. Collection of phytoplankton sample for Dr Dodge (London University).

NARRATIVE

CORELLA sailed from Lowestoft at 1000 h, 11 December and proceeded to the Sizewell Bank area where two trawl hauls were made to provide fish for histological examination before sailing overnight to join CLIONE at the Black Bank area. A total of eight attacks were made on an acoustically tagged plaice without recapture before gale force winds forced both vessels to run for shelter to IJmuiden arriving at 0200 h, 12 December. Incessant gale to storm force winds prevented sailing until 0600 h, 18 December when CORELLA proceeded to the Kentish Knock L.V. to resume trawling for histological material after it had been decided that the forecast weather for the next 48 hours would not be suitable for joint ship work. A short trawl haul at 1800 h the same day yielded two baskets of suitable fish before it was discovered that the liquid nitrogen container had leaked during the voyage and was empty. A link-call to the home of Dr Purdom ensured that a supply of liquid nitrogen would be available off Lowestoft the next day and passage was made to Yarmouth Roads by way of the Galloper L.V. where a sample of plankton was obtained.

The liquid nitrogen was delivered to CORELLA by Lowestoft Pilot Boat at 1100 h, 19 December and the vessel then proceeded towards Sizewell Bank but had to return to Yarmouth Roads because the sea and swell made trawling impracticable. With a further forecast of gale force winds from the South-East CORELLA entered Lowestoft at 1645 h.

RESULTS

1. Eight attacks were made with the Granton trawl on one acoustically tagged plaice which was not recaptured.
- 2 & 3. No suitable dabs were caught during this cruise.
4. 70 pituitary and hypothalamus glands were collected from cod, plaice and flounders.
5. A sample of phytoplankton was obtained for Dr Dodge (London University) and a sample of living zooplankton collected for Mrs Thompson.
6. 7 plaice, 1 lemon sole and 1 small Thornback ray were landed alive for hatchery work.

B C Mumford
28 December 1973

SEEN IN DRAFT: GS

CS

INITIALLED: AJL

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List

B C Mumford
V J Bye
G T Thacker
Mrs B M Thompson