

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
SCIENCE
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK NR33 OHT
2005 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME**

REPORT: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: CRUISE 3/05

STAFF:

S Warnes (SIC)
P Large (2 SIC)
S Flatman
A Tidd
J Dann
S Warne
D Brown
G Burt
J Ashworth

DURATION: 8 – 21 March.

LOCATION: Celtic Sea, South-Western Approaches, and western English Channel.

AIMS:

To collect biological data from fish stocks in the Celtic Sea in support of the EU Data Collection Regulation.

NARRATIVE

RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR sailed from Lowestoft 0930 8 March and proceeded to the SW fishing grounds to begin the trawl survey. Good passage was made and the vessel started work to the east of the Eddystone at 0930 9 March. Three tows were completed with the PHHT before the vessel steamed for Falmouth to pick up a third fishing mate. The vessel then steamed to a position west of the Scillies to recommence working VIIIf. Fishing with the PHHT continued in VIIIf and VIIg until 1100 March 13 at which time the 4m beam trawl was used. Work continued in VIIg until the evening of 14 March when in light of the increasing SW winds it was decided to steam overnight to VIIa in order to obtain more favourable working conditions. Four stations were worked in VIIa before the vessel sheltered off Fishguard from the strong SW winds. With the winds forecast to ease CEFAS ENDEAVOUR left Fishguard at 2100 16 March and steamed for a position off Milford Haven to commence working at 0640 17 March. Tows collected on the FSP cruise on MFV NELLIE (PZ10) proved invaluable for coverage in VIIg. Fishing continued with the beam trawl in VIIIf until

1550 19 March when CEFAS ENDEAVOUR started passage for Lowestoft, docking at 0615 21 March.

RESULTS

A total of 51 tows were completed; of these 19 were with the PHHT (Figure 1) and 32 with the 4m beam trawl (Figure 2).

The table below details the number of each species, by ICES division, for which length, weight, sex, maturity and (where appropriate) age data were collected.

Species	VIIa	VIIe	VIIIf	VIIg
<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>			2	1
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	4		22	49
<i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i>			1	98
<i>Lophius budegassa</i>				45
<i>Lophius piscatorious</i>	3		59	77
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	8		144	522
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	54	11	560	525
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>			27	296
<i>Microstomus kitt</i>	48		311	180
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	21		206	159
<i>Raja brachyura</i>	7		5	4
<i>Raja clavata</i>	6		1	43
<i>Raja fullonica</i>				1
<i>Raja microcellata</i>			15	2
<i>Raja montagui</i>	36		10	20
<i>Raja naevus</i>	14		3	4
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>		76	75	188
<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>			7	
<i>Solea solea</i>	6		312	17

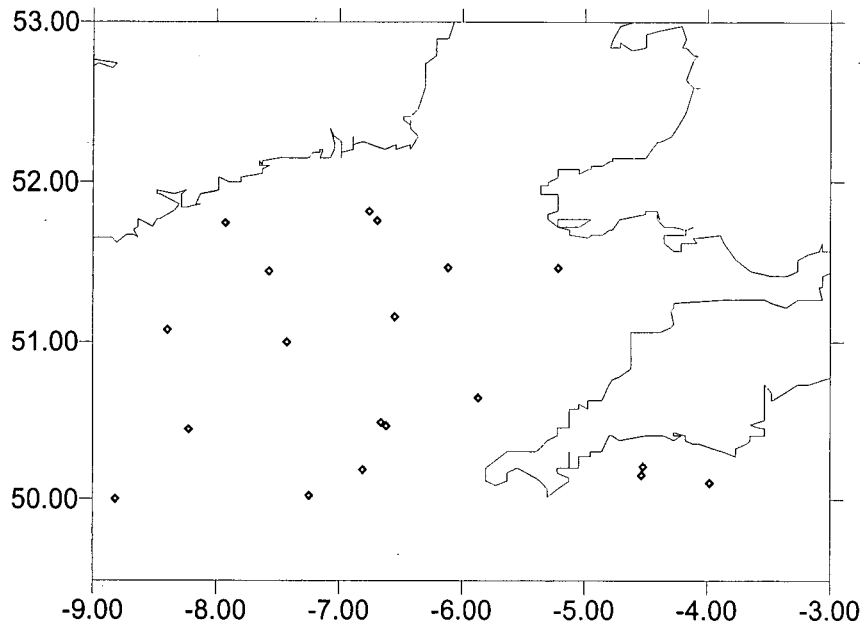


Figure 1
CEFAS ENDEAVOUR 3/05
PHHT positions

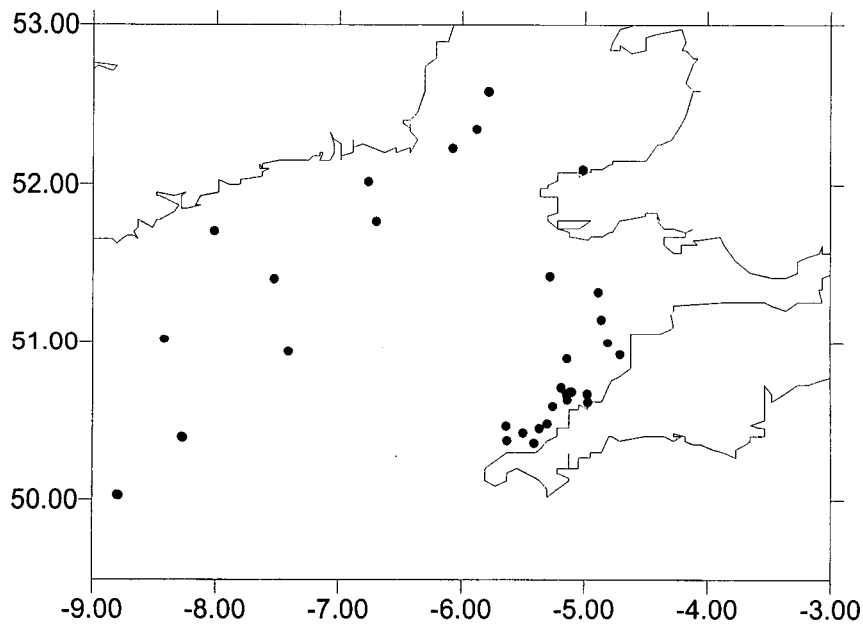


Figure 2
CEFAS ENDEAVOUR 3/05
4m Beam trawl positions

S Warnes
21 March 2005

SEEN IN DRAFT

R. McCurry (Master)

A. Simpson (Senior Fishing Mate)

INITIALLED

Dr R.S. Millner

DISTRIBUTION:
Basic list
Staff on Cruise
Devon SFC
Cornwall SFC
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