

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
SCIENCE
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK NR33 OHT
2006 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME**

REPORT: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: CRUISE 7/06

STAFF:

S Warnes (SIC 8-14 March)
A Tidd (2 SIC 8-13 March) (SIC 14-21 March)
S Kupschus
J DeOliveira
S Warne
D Brown (2IC 14-21 March)
J Smith
J Pettigrew
A Little

DURATION: 8th – 21st 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 15:00, 8th March and proceeded to a position just off Lowestoft to undertake DP trials. This work was completed at 18:10 and the engineer dropped at Lowestoft before CEFAS ENDEAVOUR made passage for the SW fishing grounds to begin the trawl survey. Slow passage was made due to adverse weather conditions and the vessel started work in the French Sector of VIIIh at 0600, 11th March. CEFAS ENDEAVOUR continued to fish, working North in VIIIh, until 21:45 on 13th March when passage was made to Falmouth. 08:40 on the morning of the 14th of March the SIC and the steward were dropped off for personal reasons. Fishing continued in VIIe on leaving Falmouth, and 4 stations were completed. The following day the vessel then steamed to a position in VIIg to recommence targeting Anglerfish and Megrim. A further 16 stations were fished in VIIg before a steam overnight to VIIf on the 17th March due to gale force north easterly winds forecast. The vessel proceeded to a more sheltered area off the North

Cornish coast were work resumed and 22 stations were fished. On 19th March at 16:30, with winds easing off Trevoise head it was decided CEFAS Endeavour should start her passage for Portland. Three stations were fished in VIIe before docking on the 20th of March at 18:00, Portland.

RESULTS

A total of 72 tows were completed; of these 2 were invalid due to net damage (Figure 1).

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	STOCK	Total
BLL	Scophthalmus Rhombus all areas	7
BLR	Raja brachyura all areas	13
COD	Gadus morhua VIIe-k	32
CUR	Raja naevus all areas	89
HAD	Melanogrammus aeglefinus VIIb-k	117
HKE	Merluccius merluccius VII	60
MEG	Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis VII	721
MON	Lophius piscatorius VIIb-k	287
MUR	Mullus surmeletus all areas	7
NEP	Nephrops norvegicus all areas	188
PLE	Pleuronectes platessa VIIe	10
PLE	Pleuronectes platessa VIIfg	135
PTR	Raja microocellata all areas	14
SDR	Raja montagui all areas	10
SHR	Raja fullonica all areas	3
SKT	Raja batis all areas	7
SOL	Solea solea VIIe	20
SOL	Solea solea VIIfg	249
SOL	Solea solea VIIhjk	13
THR	Raja clavata all areas	4
TUR	Scophthalmus maximus all areas	4
UNR	Raja undulata all areas	1
WAF	Lophius budegassa VIIb-k	29
WHG	Merlangius merlangus VIIe-k	54

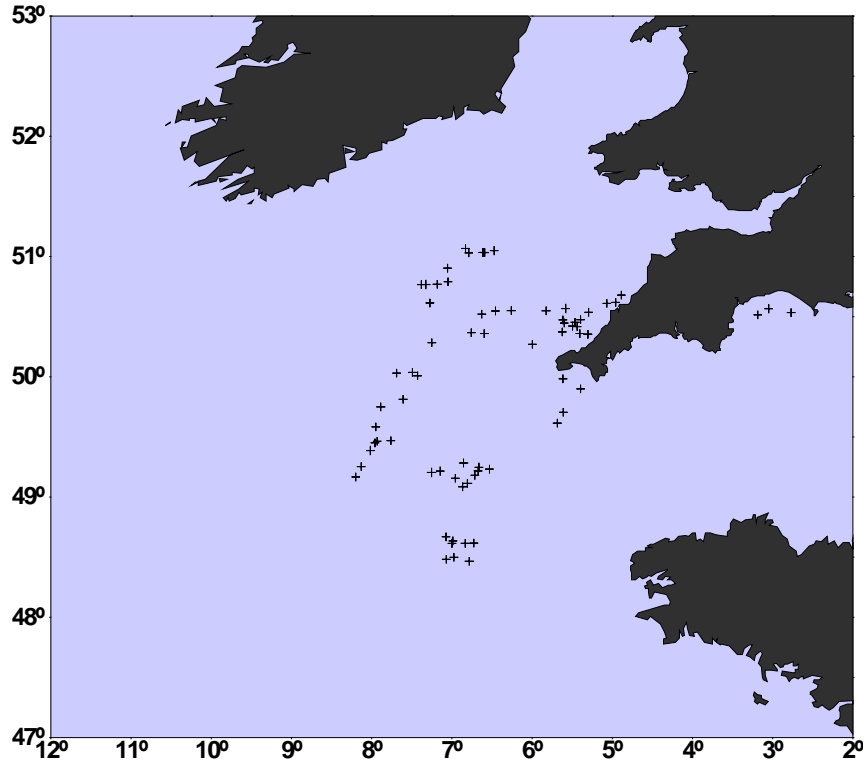
Additional data collected

5 samples of *Solea lascaris* fin clips for Natasha Taylor.

4 samples of berried *Cancer pagarus* for Derek Eaton.

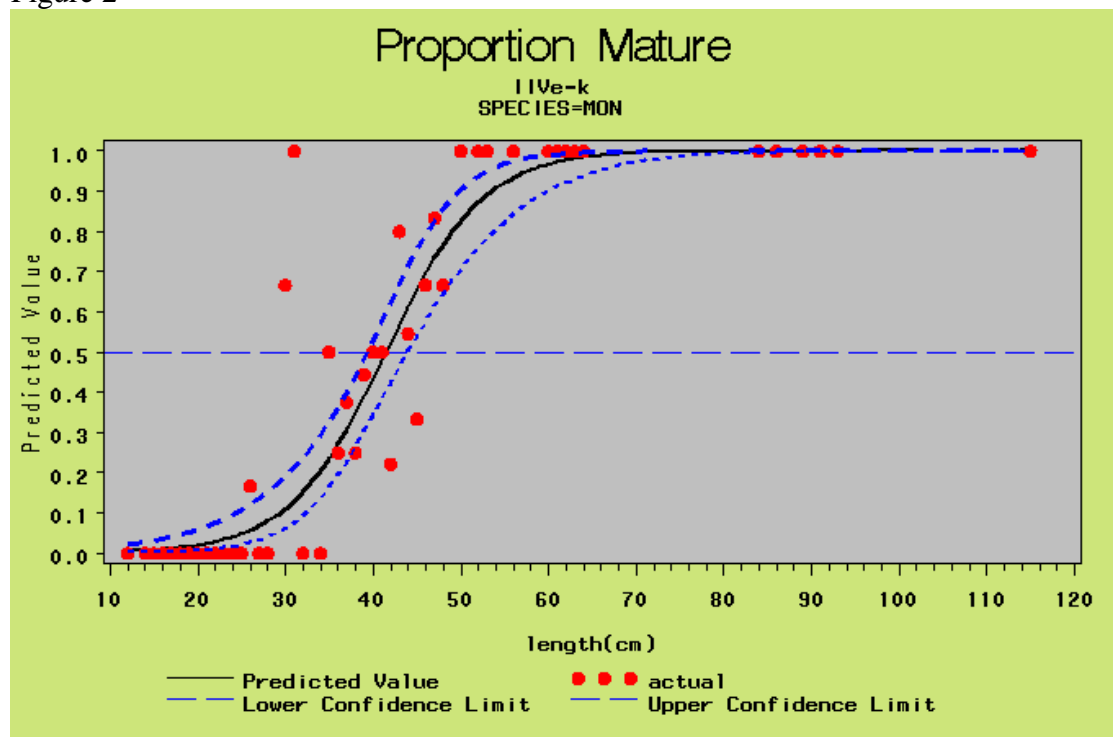
CEFAS Endeavour 7/06 survey stations

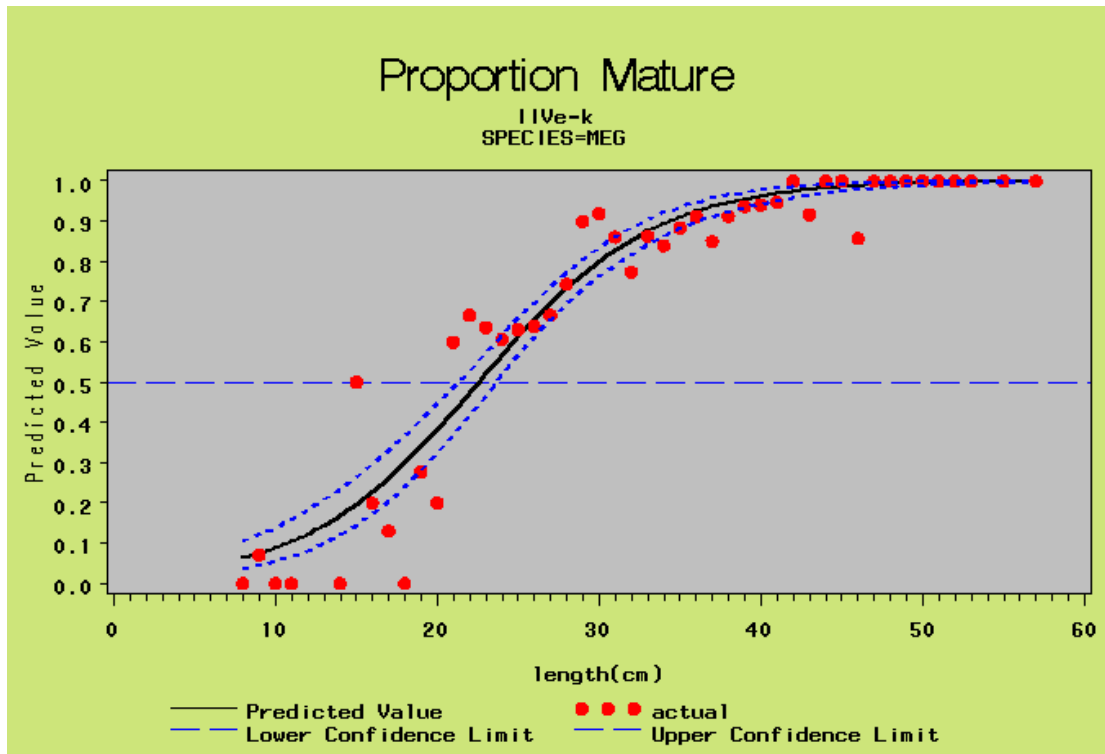
Figure 1.



Maturity ogives for two of the targeted species (figure2)

Figure 2





A Tidd
21 March 2006

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
South Wales SFC
Isles of Scilly SFC