

81/10

IN CONFIDENCE - Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory

FRV "Goldseeker"

10GR84

Cruise 10/84

LD

## REPORT

20 September - 10 October 1984

## OBJECTIVES

1. To investigate the spatfall of scallops and queens in the Clyde Sea area and Sound of Jura.
2. To study the composition of scallop and queen stocks in the same areas.

## NARRATIVE

After loading in Crinan, "Goldseeker" started lifting collectors in the Sound of Jura, Gigha and South East of Islay. Owing to the Crinan Canal being closed "Goldseeker" rounded the Mull of Kintyre on 26 September and work continued in the Clyde until the 2 October when "Goldseeker" returned around the Mull of Kintyre. The remaining stations in the Sound of Jura were covered. Work ceased on 6 October when the scientific staff left the vessel at Oban leaving "Goldseeker" to make passage to Buckie.

## RESULTS

1. Of the 125 collector strings put out in June 59 were missing. Settlement inside the Clyde was found to be poor with a mean of 12 scallops and 51 queens per string of 4 collectors. The corresponding figures for the Sound of Jura were 79 and 818 for scallops and queens respectively.
2. A limited number of dredge hauls were made during the remaining time not spent recovering and examining collectors. In the areas West of Clyde and in the Sound of Jura studied, there were indications of good recent recruitment; over half the scallops caught were 4 years old or less. The gonad condition suggested that spawning had recently occurred.

James Mason

T Howell

1 February 1985

Seen in Draft: A Mair