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LD

FRV "Goldseeker"

Cruise 6/84 21 June - 11 July 1984

REPORT

OBJECTIVES

1. To study the settlement of scallops and queens in the Sound of Jura and Clyde Sea Area.
2. To study the size and age composition of scallops and queens in the same areas.

NARRATIVE

Staff joined the vessel at Oban on 21 June and work started in the Sound of Jura next day. Spat collectors were put out at a number of positions along the Sound of Jura and west and south of Islay as far as Port Ellen, and at Gigha and the nearby mainland coast. This was followed by dredging in the Islay and Gigha areas, and the vessel then proceeded through the Crinan Canal on 25 June. Collectors were placed and further dredging carried out in Loch Fyne and Kilbrannan Sound, and round Arran and Inchmarnock. Scientific staff changed over on 2 July at Troon. After dredging off the Ayrshire coast and the Cock of Arran, "Goldseeker" returned through the Crinan Canal. Collectors were put out at a number of places from Loch Sween to Easdale Bay. Dredging was carried out off the east coast of Jura, in Easdale Bay and west of Kerrera. The cruise ended at Corpach on the evening of 10 July.

RESULTS

A total of 125 strings, each of 4 collectors, were put out in 37 places and will be retrieved in the autumn.

Dredging yielded rather poor results in many places, but there were good concentrations in a number of others (see Table). There is evidence of good recent recruitment in the Sound of Jura, where 3 and 4 ring scallops were common, and round Arran and Clonaig, where 2 and 3 ring scallops predominated. Queens were moderately plentiful off Arran and Inchmarnock and at Skipness.

J Mason

J Drinkwater

23 August 1984

Seen in draft: A Mair

Age composition of scallops caught

Age	No in sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	>9
Kerrera	40	-	-	7.5	17.5	20	7.5	2.5	5	5	35
Easdale	65	-	4.6	20	21.5	15.4	13.8	12.3	6.2	4.6	1.5
S of Jura (South of Lossa Bay)	158	0.6	2.5	27.8	37.3	14.5	7.0	6.3	1.3	1.2	1.2
Cock of Arran	92	-	15.2	22.8	20.6	4.3	14.2	7.6	7.6	4.4	3.3
South Arran	75	-	10.6	25.3	6.6	9.0	14.6	12	6.6	1.3	13.3
Claonaig	67	8.9	25.3	22.3	7.5	17.9	2.9	5.9	14.9	2.9	4.5