

Indexed
AR

06

R1/3

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory

Charter Cruise MV "Helene"

Report

11 May - 7 July 1986

Personnel

K A Coull	HSO	(11 May - 27 June)
C P Whitworth	ASO	
P Clark	ASO	(29 June - 7 July)

Objective

To obtain information on the selectivity of the seine net in relation to changes in codend mesh size, codend diameter and length of extension.

Narrative

"Helene" sailed from Aberdeen on the afternoon of 11 May. A trial haul was carried out on the way to the fishing grounds in order to sort out any handling difficulties. A total of 46 hauls were completed in the region of the Ankfield and Cod field before landing at Aberdeen on 19 May.

The charter period was interrupted for annual maintenance/refit and recommenced on 9 June. "Helene" then completed three trips of four working days duration on grounds between 80 and 130 miles off the east coast of Scotland. Mr Clark replaced Mr Coull for the last trip of eight working days. The charter ended on 7 July at Aberdeen.

Results

A total of 178 valid hauls was completed during the charter and 1098 cwt of marketable fish were landed over the charter period. Catches varied throughout the trips with most hauls having between 10 and 20 boxes in the large mesh and between five and 10 boxes in the small mesh cover.

Fish from the small mesh cover and the codend were measured from each haul in order to obtain length compositions for the main species. Each codend was measured on several occasions.

Codend measurements

No	Nominal size (mm)	Diameter	Actual size (mm)
1	80	Narrow	81.4
2	80	Normal	81.4
3	80	Wide	80.6
4	90	Narrow	89.1
5	90	Normal	88.4
6	90	Wide	88.9
7	100	Narrow	99.0
8	100	Normal	99.9
9	100	Wide	99.3

Each codend was tested with an extension length of 13.65 m (long) 9.1 m (normal) and with no extension piece.

K A Coull
8 February 1987