

## INSTITUTE FOR MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

## CRUISE REPORT

IMER 6/79

RVS 14/79

**VESSEL** R.R.S. JOHN MURRAY  
**CRUISE PERIOD** 10 - 12 September 1979  
**PERSONNEL** M B Jordan H.S.O. Senior Scientist  
 A W G John H.S.O.  
 R Price S.O.  
 Miss T Budd A.S.O.  
 Mrs C E Mitchell A.S.O.

**ITINERARY** The cruise track and list of plankton station positions was the same as for cruise IMER 3/7/79

Monday 10 September Travelled to Barry and installed equipment. Vessel sailed at 2100 hrs and commenced track along North Somerset and Devon coasts

Wednesday 12 September Completed sampling programme at 1045. Alongside berth at 1200. Discharged equipment and returned to Barry.

**OBJECTIVES** To continue a series of cruises to monitor the performance of the area to update ecosystem model GEMBASE.

**PROCEDURE AND METHODS** Continuous surface sampling was carried out over the area, water being supplied by a submersible pump.

Surface temperature, salinity, nitrate, nitrogen and turbidity were recorded continuously. Frequent water samples were taken for salinity calibration. Fluorescence was measured continuously and samples were taken (every half-hour) and filtered for subsequent spectrophotometric determination of chlorophyll. Twenty six plankton samples were collected using undulating tows, wherever the water depth was great enough, of the Lowestoft sampler.

**EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE** No problems were encountered with the equipment provided by IMER or RVS.

**RESULTS** Weather conditions were good. All cruise objectives were completed satisfactorily. Detailed results await laboratory analysis.

Prepared by: M B Jordan  
 Approved by: *B. L. Bayne*  
 Date: 25 September 1979