

R.12/5

CONFIDENTIAL: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory.

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "MARA"

November 2nd-18th 1960

Objective:- Whiting tagging in the Clyde.

Narrative: Bad weather delayed the start of the cruise, and persistent winds of force 8-10 severely restricted the amount of work which could be done during the period. During the six days when tagging was possible, 924 whiting, 16 cod and 2 haddock were marked on two grounds - 4/5 miles west of Lady Isle and 2 miles west of Horse Island. All these fish were trawl caught, using a nylon wing trawl towed for 15 to 30 minutes. Fishing was too poor and patchy to enable hand-lines to be used with sufficient success, but the trawl catches were of the order of two to three baskets, which gave convenient numbers of good quality fish for tagging. Only whiting with moderate or good scale condition, able to swim down to the bottom of the deck tanks, were marked. Three types of tag were used. A hydrostatic tag on a metal bridle, a hydrostatic tag on a nylon bridle and a flag tag on a nylon bridle.

All the fish and Nephrops in the catches were measured and a sample of whiting gall bladders was collected for Dr. Kabata.

RAY GAMBLE

22.11.60.