

dk

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD  
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1984 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV PRINCE MADOG : CRUISE 26

(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF:

A Franklin (SIC)  
J E Portmann  
Catherine F Fileman  
Pat V May  
P J Ellwood (University of Liverpool)

DURATION:

Left Menai Bridge 0930 h 3 September  
Arrived Menai Bridge 1730 h 6 September  
All times are GMT

LOCALITY:

North-eastern Irish Sea

AIMS:

To collect samples of fish at a number of sites, south and east of the Isle of Man, as a continuation of the study on spatial variation in contaminant concentrations.

NARRATIVE:

PRINCE MADOG sailed from Menai Bridge on the morning of 3 September into Liverpool Bay, where trawling commenced off Rhyl. Further stations were worked in the Burbo Bight area and at the dumping ground site before anchoring for the night. Bad weather prevented work until mid-day the following morning, when sampling on the dumping ground was completed and the ship sailed north to Morecambe Bay. Trawling was undertaken in this area and the ship anchored overnight. Fishing was undertaken on 5 September off the Cumbrian coast and PRINCE MADOG then sailed west toward the Isle of Man, trawling an area mid way between St Bees Head and Maughold Head before sailing south to enter Douglas for the night. Trawling commenced immediately east of Douglas early on the morning of 6 September and the ship then sailed south to fish stations on the return journey to Anglesey. Unfortunately, the gear was severely damaged when the trawl caught on a bottom obstruction during a tow being carried out approximately 25 miles north of the Skerries. Fishing could not be continued and PRINCE MADOG returned to Menai Bridge, docking at 1730 h on 6 September.

RESULTS:

Fishing was successfully undertaken in the Liverpool Bay area (for the EQS work) and at other sites in the central sea area between the Isle of Man and the Lancashire and Cumbrian coasts. Approx 600 samples, mainly of cod, whiting, plaice, sole and dab, were retained for chemical analysis; the information from these will be added to that obtained in 1983. Data are still required for the region directly south of the Isle of Man, but this area is extremely difficult to work

Andrew Franklin  
25 September 1984

SEEN IN DRAFT:

T D

INITIALLED:

H W H

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +

A Franklin

J E Portmann

C F Fileman

P V May

P J Ellwood/R T Leah (University of Liverpool)

E I S Rees (UCNW, Menai Bridge)

K W Wilson (North West Water)