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

1997 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV PRINCE MADOG 46/87

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

STAFF:

A Franklin (SIC) C R Allchin S J W Padley

DURATION:

Left Menai Bridge 1400h 14 September 1987 Arrived Menai Bridge 0700h 18 September 1987 All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCATION:

North-eastern Irish Sea

AIMS:

- 1. To collect fish samples from Liverpool and Morecambe Bays, for EQS submissions to EC and Oslo/Paris Commissions.
- To collect samples of fish at 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 afternoon of 14 September after a slight delay due to bad weather. Conditions had not improved sufficiently to allow work to commence outside the shelter of the Menai Straits, so the vessel anchored for the night near Puffin Island. Trawling commenced on the morning of 15 September and continued until the evening, samples of a number of fish species being taken from areas around the Liverpool Bay Dump Site and off Rhyl. PRINCE MADOG then steamed overnight to Morecambe Bay where fishing commenced on the morning of 16 September. The required fish samples were obtained by mid-day and the vessel then steamed to the Isle of Man. Trawling was attempted in the early evening off Douglas, but the ground proved too stoney and this was abandoned, the ship entering Douglas for the night. Rod and line fishing commenced on the morning of 17 September, working a number of areas to the south-east and south of the Isle of Man. Sampling was completed in the late evening and PRINCE MADOG then steamed back to Anglesey, docking at Menai Bridge at 0700h on 18 September.

RESULTS:

Aim 1: Samples of cod, whiting, plaice, dab and sole were obtained for EQS purposes from Liverpool and Morecambe Bays.

Aim 2: Samples of cod, whiting and spur-dog were obtained using rod and line in the area to the south of the Isle of Man.

SEEN IN DRAFT: I L1 HUGH (Master)

INITIALLED: PCW

HWH

A Franklin 24 September 1987

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List+

A Franklin S J W Padley

K W Wilson (North West Water)

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