

RI/12

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FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 5/90, Part 2

5pt2SR90

REPORT

25 May-1 June 1990

Personnel

K MacKenzie	PSO
G Costa (Miss)	Student
G Begg	Student
H H Williams	Visitor (National Museum of Wales)
R Williams	Visitor (National Museum of Wales)
P Howlett	Visitor (National Museum of Wales)
R A Bray	Visitor (Natural History Museum)
M Spencer-Jones(Miss)	Visitor (Natural History Museum)

Objectives

1. To collect data on the distribution of parasites selected as possible indicators of pollution.
2. To investigate liver coccidiosis of Norway pout in the east Shetland Basin.
3. To continue fish disease survey from Part 1 of this cruise.

Narrative

Change of staff took place by pilot cutter at 1400 hours on Friday 25 May. Two hauls were made in the Buchan Deeps and Halibut Bank on 25 May before *Scotia* headed to east of Shetland where nine hauls were made over the following three days. The vessel then proceeded towards the farthest west station, north of North Rona, making five hauls en route. Two hauls were made on the return journey along the north coast and a further two east of Orkney; *Scotia* then sailed to Burghead Bay and along the southern Moray Firth, where four more hauls were made. *Scotia* docked in Aberdeen at 0830 on Friday 1 June. The weather was fine throughout the entire cruise.

Samples of water for radio-caesium monitoring by MAFF were taken at four stations - Fair Isle, Cape Wrath, Pentland Firth and off Buckie.

Results

A total of 25 one-hour hauls was made. For some parasites large differences in prevalence between this survey and others carried out up to 20 years ago were noted. The general impression is that infections of parasites with direct life cycles, such as monogeneans, have increased, while infections of those with indirect life cycles, such as tapeworms, have decreased. One station in the east Shetland Basin stood out as having a particularly high prevalence of liver

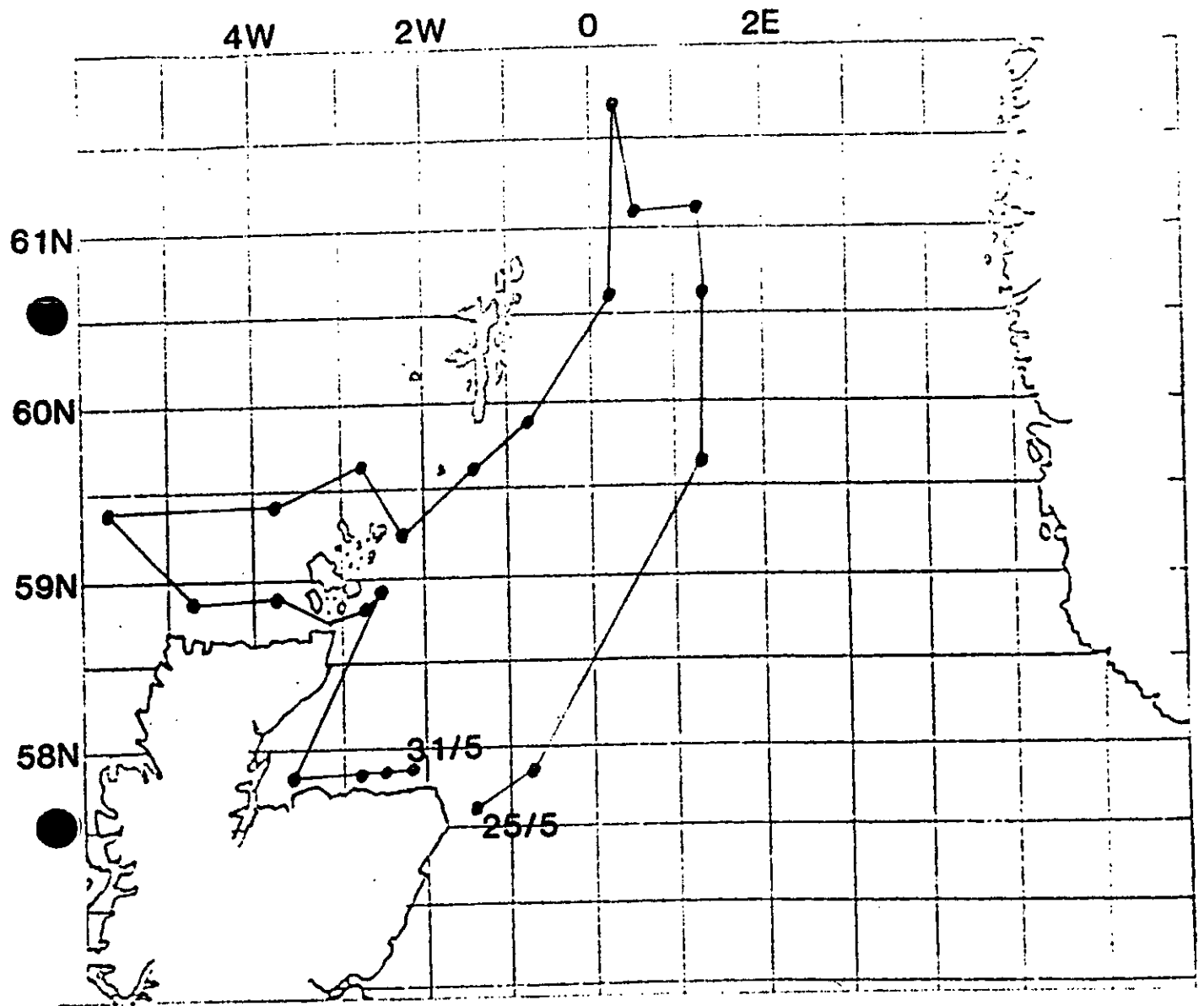
coccidiosis in Norway pout and of gill monogeneans in whiting. Many of the infected fish were in poor condition. Comparative data on diseases of common dabs were collected from the fixed station in Burghead Bay and other sampling stations.

Two species of fish unusual for this area were caught. Two specimens of the boarfish, *Capros aper*, were taken east of Orkney, and one specimen of the Norwegian topknot, *Phrynorhombus norvegicus*, was taken in the Moray Firth.

K MacKenzie

7 June 1990

Seen in draft: A MacKenzie, OIC



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