

R1/12

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FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0793S

REPORT

5-10 June 1993

Personnel

A McVicar (SIC)	PSO
K MacKenzie	PSO
D Bruno	SSO
D Smail	SSO
A Turnbull (Miss)	ASO
J Emslie (Miss)	ASO
R Bray	Visitor BM (Nat Hist)
M Spencer-Jones (Miss)	Visitor BM (Nat Hist)
A Soto (Miss)	Visitor BM (Nat Hist)
L Khan (Miss)	Visitor Aberdeen Univ

Fishing Gear

BT 101 (48' Aberdeen trawl) with tickler chain and small mesh cod-end.

Objectives

1. To perform a check monitoring fish disease survey on sewage sludge disposal grounds off the Firth of Forth, adjacent and distal reference areas (east Orkney) and in areas in the vicinity of oil fields (Moray Firth and east Shetland basin).

Narrative/Results

Scotia sailed from Aberdeen at 1015 on 5 June and commenced trawling on the Bell Rock sewage dump ground during that afternoon. Samples were obtained from the adjacent reference site, the St Abb's Head sewage dump site, its reference area and from the vicinity of the Beatrice oil field through 5-6 June. A position south east of Fair Isle and several positions in the East Shetland Basin were sampled on 7-9 June. *Scotia* docked in Aberdeen on the morning of 10 June. A total of 23 trawls were successfully completed.

A total of 4,342 common dab *Limanda limanda* were examined for disease by standardised ICES methods and a full data set for the recommended fish length groups achieved for the St Abb's Head and Bell Rock dump sites, their adjacent reference areas, a distal reference area (south east Fair Isle) and from the vicinity of the Beatrice oil field. All cod caught (353) were examined for pseudobranch lesions and haddock >26 cm (total 715) from each haul with that species were examined for vertebral deformities. A total of 398 herring were examined for *Ichthyophonus* infection. Whiting (544) were

collected and examined for the occurrence of gill and eye parasites. Gall-bladders of whiting, cod and haddock were collected and returned for further analysis of infection by collaborating workers. A wide range of parasites from representatives of the fish species caught were collected by British Museum staff for reference collections and interspecific genetic comparisons.

The main objectives of the sampling programme were successfully completed thanks to the excellent cooperation of the officers and crew of FRV *Scotia* and the generally good weather prevailing.

A H McVicar
Chief Scientist

Seen in draft: C J Brazier (Captain)

18 June 1993