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8SR86

FRV "Scotia"

Cruise 8/86

REPORT

August 8-28 1986

Personnel

A Robb	HSO (in charge)
Mrs M Brown	SO
C Whitworth	SO
G Henderson	ASO (20-28 Aug)
G Jones	ASO
P Clark	ASO
J Smith	SSO (20-28 Aug)
I Martin	Visitor (8-20 Aug)

Objective

To undertake a demersal trawling survey in the North Sea.

Narrative

"Scotia" sailed at 1545 hrs on 8 August and work commenced the same day at the stations off Aberdeen. The southern region of the survey was completed with little interruption before the ship called at Lerwick on 20 August for the half-landing.

Work recommenced on 21 August and the remainder of the survey was completed before the ship docked in Aberdeen at 0730 hrs on 28 August.

Results

The entire survey area was covered with a total of 85 hauls being made during the cruise. Catches ranged from 5-22 baskets per hour. The bigger catches were taken in the northern part of the survey area but overall, catches were generally less than in previous years. The numbers at age of cod, haddock, whiting and saithe by market sampling areas are given in Tables 1-4. Cod catches were generally less than in 1985 with 1+ fish being most abundant in the Humber and Central areas.

For haddock 0- 1+ formed the bulk of the catch in all areas; for whiting there was an increase in the numbers taken of 0+ and 1+ in Moray Firth and Humber respectively. In the case of saithe catches were greatest in the Viking/Forties areas.

Stomach sampling

A total of 980 cod, 2200 whiting, 850 saithe and 750 herring were examined and samples preserved.

Parasitology

Samples were examined for Lernaeocera infection and additional samples were deep frozen and brought back to the Laboratory.

Live Fish

Lemon sole and common dab were successfully returned to the aquarium.

A P Robb
23 September 1986

Seen in draft
N McInnes

Numbers at age (per 10 hours)

Table 1 COD

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
0		11						2		1				
1	3	10		8	-	7	14	27	3	66	5	129	17	356
2	53	9	42	12	20		23		230	21	160	15	158	2
3	29	38	72	51	-	-	2	3	22	42	16	69	7	12
4	13	7	32	29	-	-	3	1	14	8	13	3	5	-
5	5	5	10	10	-	-	-	1	3	5	3	4	-	2
6	4	1	5	2	-	-	1	1	2	-	2	4	3	2
≥7	2	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	2

Table 2 HADDOCK

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
0	1443	3264	1100	1585	1225	540	639	2198	1587	2827	189	641	357	
1	2102	1568	1283	1626	7447	5767	3986	4831	1377	2432	929	1095	358	1650
2	1746	737	1532	287	2843	1217	4631	1371	1721	315	4097	192	1620	214
3	161	646	332	428	70	120	208	1013	300	355	294	557	30	500
4	151	82	215	76	10	-	71	20	65	29	59	22	25	10
5	31	89	52	56	-	-	-	8	8	10	7	10	3	12
6	54	16	15	12	-	4	99	-	8	-	5	-	3	-
7	37	8	8	9	-	-	-	6	2	1	-	-	-	2

Table 3 WHITING

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
0	149	292	108	220	1518	5177	261	484	171	287	30	32	12	-
1	198	139	3	12	6470	1503	5785	2660	25	57	359	278	1118	6968
2	575	912	70	266	80	50	3996	684	229	238	465	136	1145	1022
3	359	433	63	210	37	17	163	274	103	165	120	105	400	364
4	16	62	20	27	10	-	314	13	28	30	34	16	25	30
5	62	3	17	15	3	-	117	4	8	3	7	4	13	20
6	27	7	15	22	3	-	99	17	10	2	2	1	5	-
≥7	6	1	8	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	7	2

Table 4 SAITHE

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	66	11	18	37	-	-	149	1	2322	176	273	1	2	-
3	577	267	390	2179	-	-	47	1	1095	1463	352	6	-	2
4	65	79	208	227	-	-	1	-	43	85	2	-	-	-
5	24	7	57	41	-	-	1	-	10	6	-	-	-	-
6	11	3	32	7	-	-	-	-	11	3	-	-	-	-
≥7	28	1	25	2	-	-	3	-	10	8	1	-	-	-

Scotia B-28⁴ Aug 1986

