

R1/12

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Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory.

FRV SCOTIA

BSR87

CRUISE 8/87

12 August-1 September 1987

Report

Personnel

A Robb	HSO (in charge)
Miss M Bell	SO
G Henderson	SO
K Peach	ASO
Miss G Guthrie	ASO
D Campbell	ASO
Miss L Stout	Visitor
S Benn	NCC

Objective

1. To undertake a trawling survey in the North Sea.
2. To obtain video film of hydrocarbon/benthic sampling procedures.

Narrative

Scotia sailed at 0900 hrs on 12 August. Due to poor weather conditions video filming of hydrocarbon/benthic sampling procedures had to be postponed until a later date. Trawling commenced later that day at the stations off Aberdeen and the southern part of the survey was completed before the ship called at Lerwick on 24 August. Work recommenced on 25 August. However deteriorating weather conditions resulted in the ship having to dodge on 26 August. Work continued on the following day until problems occurred with the net drum. This resulted in the gear having to be hauled using only the trawl winches, a procedure which was only operable in good weather conditions. The resulting increase in the time required for shooting and hauling coupled with less than ideal weather conditions meant that some stations had to be missed out. Scotia docked at Aberdeen at 0900 hrs on 1 September.

Results

A total of 81 hauls were made during the survey. Catches ranged from 3 to 15 baskets per hour with the bigger catches being taken in the northern part of the area. Overall catches were generally similar to previous years. The numbers at age of cod, haddock, saithe and whiting are given in Tables 1-4 for each market sampling area. Cod catches were similar to 1986 in the Northern part of the survey. However there was a decrease in the numbers of 1+ fish in the more southern areas. For haddock there was an upward trend in the numbers of 1+ age fish taken in all areas except Buchan and Moray Firth. For whiting the catches of 1+ fish were generally similar or greater than the 1986 catch rates. In the case of saithe the numbers caught were less than the previous year.

Stomach Sampling

A total of 777 cod, 3676 whiting and 467 saithe were examined and samples preserved.

Deep Frozen Samples

Samples of herring, saithe, dab and other species were brought back to the Laboratory.

A P Robb

30 October 1987

Seen in Draft: N E McInnes, CO

NUMBERS AT AGE (PER 10 HOURS)

TABLE I COD

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
0	11	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1	10	16	8	14	7	20	27	13	66	37	129	21	356	37
2	9	91	12	56	-	-	-	24	21	104	15	60	2	125
3	38	8	51	4	-	-	3	2	42	10	69	-	12	-
4	7	11	29	28	-	-	1	2	8	16	3	7	-	6
5	5	3	10	10	-	-	1	2	5	5	4	1	2	3
6	1	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	1	2	-
≥7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	-

TABLE 2 HADDOCK

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
0	3264	442	1585	820	540	25	2198	136	2827	739	641	51	-	1
1	1568	2841	1626	1749	5767	3742	4831	2949	2432	2605	1095	1645	1650	2759
2	737	1168	287	606	1217	196	1371	1080	315	814	192	308	214	504
3	646	269	428	71	120	145	1013	64	355	121	557	22	500	150
4	82	160	76	47	-	8	20	263	29	73	22	81	10	147
5	89	21	56	-	-	-	8	12	10	1	10	1	12	20
6	16	8	12	11	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	2	-	-
≥7	8	17	9	-	-	-	6	4	1	-	-	-	2	-

TABLE 3 WHITING

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
0	292	41	220	364	5177	479	484	172	287	289	32	9	-	19
1	139	117	12	43	1503	2954	2660	2520	57	54	278	1969	6968	2332
2	912	1055	266	201	50	935	684	3975	238	172	136	311	1022	978
3	433	355	210	225	17	78	274	459	165	118	105	28	364	216
4	62	139	27	130	-	-	13	90	30	40	16	33	30	121
5	3	54	15	-	-	-	4	16	3	6	4	2	20	23
6	7	-	22	-	-	-	17	8	2	4	1	2	-	9
≥7	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-

TABLE 4 SAI THE

Age	Shetland		Viking		Moray Firth		Buchan		Forties		Central		Humber	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	11	-	37	2	-	-	1	1	176	10	1	-	-	-
3	267	8	2179	20	-	-	1	2	1463	101	6	-	2	-
4	79	65	227	286	-	-	-	6	85	206	-	1	-	-
5	7	12	41	35	-	-	-	2	6	12	-	-	-	-
6	3	1	7	14	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-
≥7	1	1	2	10	-	-	-	-	8	15	-	-	-	-

