

R1/12

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory

FRV *SCOTIA*

Cruise 0894S

REPORT

30 May - 03 June 1994

Personnel

A McVicar (SIC)	PSO
D Bruno	SSO
J Emslie (Miss)	ASO
L Bonner (Miss)	AA
G Begg	Student
J Barkess	VOM
R Bray	Visitor BM (Natural History)
M Spencer-Jones	Visitor BM (Natural History)

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 area (east Orkney) and in areas in the vicinity of an oil field (Moray Firth).
2. To sample herring for the occurrence of the disease *Ichthyophonus*.

Out turn days per project: 5 days BJB

Narrative/Results

Scotia sailed from Aberdeen at 1015 on 30 May and commenced trawling on the Bell Rock sewage dump ground during that afternoon. Samples were obtained from the St Abb's Head sewage dump site, a line of positions through a known chemical gradient outwards from the Forth estuary, and from the vicinity of the Beatrice oil field through 30 - 31 May. A position south east of Fair Isle and several positions in the East Shetland Basin were sampled on 1 - 2 June. *Scotia* docked in Aberdeen on the morning of 3 June. A total of 21 trawls were successfully completed.

A total of 4131 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 all seven sampling stations. All cod caught (130) were examined for pseudobranch lesions and haddock >26 cm (total 660) from each haul with that species present were examined for vertebral deformities. A total of 1353 herring were examined for *Ichthyophonus* infection. A wide range of parasites from representatives of the fish species caught were collected by British Museum staff for national reference collections and interspecific genetic comparisons.

All 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

16 June 1994

Seen in draft: C J Brazier (Captain)