

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND**

1992 CHARTER VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: FV SHAROWNA

STAFF: CL Whiting
G J Howlett

DURATION: 4-11 October 1992

LOCATION: Brighton area.

AIMS:

1. To repeat the study on survival rates of discarded plaice.
2. To tag juvenile plaice to compare return rates of control and discarded fish.

NARRATIVE

Staff travelled to Brighton on 4 October. Discarded plaice were tagged from two hour commercial tows fished on 5 and 6 October and plaice in good condition from 30 minute hauls were tagged as controls on 7 and 8 October. A combination of 30 minute and two hour hauls were fished on 9 October to complete the tagging.

Control and discarded plaice were held in survival cages in Brighton Marina and were checked at regular intervals. All surviving fish were tagged and returned to the sea on completion of the experiment on 11 October, when staff returned to Lowestoft.

RESULTS

1. A survival experiment was run using 51 discarded plaice from a 2 hour tow and 50 control plaice from 30 minute tows. The percentage survival after 6 days, for each group is shown below.

	% survival
2 hour discards	92
Controls	100

2. Eleven two hour tows and eighteen 30 minute tows were fished. From these tows a total of 549 discards and 564 control plaice were tagged and released in the area between Hove and Newhaven.

GENERAL

I would like to thank the skipper and crew of FV SHAROWNA for all their help and advice and the management of Brighton Marina for their cooperation in allowing us to use the facilities at the Marine for the survival experiment. Thanks are also due to the skipper of FV TOBYROC who released the caged fish at sea on the last day of the experiment.

CL Whiting
23 October 1992

INITIALLED: GPA

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +
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