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

1982 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: FV SILVER STAR: CRUISE 1

(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author).

STAFF:

C N Humphreys
I L Davies

DURATION:

18-25 March

LOCATION:

North East Irish Sea

AIMS:

1. To carry out a groundfish survey along the N. Wales coast.
2. To collect samples of otoliths of commercial species.
3. To sample stomach contents of a range of species for use with multi-species assessment models.

NARRATIVE:

The staff travelled to Conwy on 18 March, and commenced the survey on 20 March, bad weather preventing the boat from putting to sea on 19 March. No further bad weather was encountered, and the survey including the 4 additional stations in Redwharfe Bay, was completed in 6 days, the staff returning to Lowestoft on 25 March.

RESULTS:

1. The 24 groundfish survey hauls were all successfully completed, the 4 Redwharfe Bay stations providing additional data on I-group plaice.
2. Stratified otoliths samples were collected from commercial species. Totals were plaice 324, whiting 148 and cod 20.
3. Stomach contents of all otolithed fish, together with 29 Raja clavata, 1 Raja montagui, 1 Squatina squatina and 47 lesser spotted dogfish were examined and noted.

The scientific staff would like to express their gratitude to Skipper Craven and the crew of SILVER STAR, for the continued cooperation and assistance given throughout the survey.

C N Humphreys
13 April 1982

INITIALED:

D J G

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +
Lancs and Western Sea Fisheries Committee
Skipper G Craven
Mr A Barr
Mr C N Humphreys
Mr I L Davies