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

1988 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: FV SILVER STAR: CRUISE 1

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

STAFF:

M R Vince
B F M Harley

DURATION:

21-30 June

LOCATION:

North East Irish Sea

AIMS:

1. To carry out a groundfish survey along the North Wales coast.
2. To collect samples of otoliths of commercial species.
3. To obtain samples of ungutted plaice and whiting for comtaminant trend analysis work. (A Franklin, Burnham).
4. To obtain mesh selection data.

NARRATIVE

The staff travelled to Conwy by road on 20 June and commenced the survey on the morning tide of 21 June. The survey continued without interruption until completion on 26 June. The staff returned to Lowestoft the following day.

RESULTS

1. One haul of the survey total of 24 was missed out due to some damage sustained to the net on the third tow of day three. The time needed to repair the net prior to completing the fourth tow would have resulted in the SILVER STAR missing the tide at Conwy.
2. Stratified samples of otoliths were collected from commccercial species. This is the first cruise that the redesigned sampling targets were used. Totals were : plaice 322, sole 136, whiting 101, cod 47.
3. Samples of ungutted plaice, whiting and flounder were collected and frozen for A Franklin of Burnham on Crouch laboratory.
4. Codend mesh measurements were made at the end of the cruise.

Once again the detailed sorting and amount of data collected was only possible due to the co-operation and assistance provided by the crew of the SILVER STAR. The staff would like to record their thanks.

M R Vince
18 July 1988

INITIALLED: D J G

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list+

North Western and North Wales Sea Fishery Committee

Skipper G Craven

Mr A Barr

Mr A Franklin

M R Vince

B F M Harley