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

1982 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: FV SILVER STAR: CRUISE 2

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

. A Pishertham Committee

STAFF:

P D Wallace

D Palmer

DURATION:

29 May-3 June

LOCATION:

North East Irish Sea

AIMS:

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

NARRATIVE:

The staff travelled to Conwy on 28 May and the survey commenced on 29 May. Work continued without interruption over the succeeding 6 days in ideal weather conditions. Staff returned to Lowestoft on 4 June.

RESULTS:

- 1. The 24 groundfish survey hauls were all successfully completed.
- 2. Stratified otolith samples were collected from commercial species. Totals were plaice 212, whiting 130, cod 8, sole 19.
- Stomach contents of all otolithed fish were examined and noted. In addition stomach contents were examined from the following fish

Lesser spotted dogfish	104	Blonde ray	1
Greater spotted dogfish	1	Spotted ray	2
Smoothound	2	Cuckoo ray	1
Tope	. 1	-	
Monkfish	1		
Tub gurnard	. 12		
Thornback ray	69	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Tope Monkfish Tub gurnard		Cuckoo ray	1

The scientific staff are very grateful for the continued help and co-operation given by Skipper Craven and the crew of the SILVER STAR.

P D Wallace 9 June 1982

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