

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)

STAFF:

P D Wallace
 D Palmer

DURATION:

29 May-3 June

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 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.
3. 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 |
| Smoothhound | 2 | Cuckoo ray | 1 |
| Tope | 1 | | |
| Monkfish | 1 | | |
| Tub gurnard | 12 | | |
| Thornback ray | 69 | | |

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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