

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

1989 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV SILVER STAR: CRUISE 2  
(PROVISIONAL: Not to be cited without prior reference to the author)

STAFF: M R Vince  
B F M Harley

DURATION: 23 October-8 November

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 contaminant trend analysis work (A Franklin, Burnham).
4. To obtain mesh selection data.

NARRATIVE:

Staff travelled to Conwy by road on 22 October. Between the 23 and 27 three days of the six day survey were achieved. With the forecast of unsettled weather for at least three days and the arrival of unfavourable tides the staff returned to Lowestoft on Saturday 28 October to await improved conditions. A return to Conwy was made on 5 November and the remaining part of the survey was completed by the evening of 8 November, by which time a NW gale was blowing. Staff returned to Lowestoft the following day.

RESULTS:

1. All 24 hauls were successfully completed.
2. Stratified samples of otoliths were collected from commercial species.  
Totals were: plaice 332, sole 17, cod 4, whiting 97.
3. Samples of ungutted plaice, whiting and flounder were collected for A Franklin (Burnham-on-Crouch).
4. Codend mesh measurements were made during the cruise.

Once again the crew of the SILVER STAR provided a great deal of help and the staff wish to record their thanks to all aboard.

M R Vince  
14 November 1989

SEEN IN DRAFT:

INITIALLED: B W J 

DISTRIBUTION: Basic list +  
M R Vince  
B F M Harley  
A Franklin (B-o-C)

Skipper Craven  
Mr A Barr  
North Western & North Wales Sea  
Fishery Committee