

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

1978 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: R V TELLINA: CRUISE 2

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

STAFF: P D Wallace
M White 7-14 April
R Cross 17-25 April

DURATION: Left Lowestoft 0900 h 7 April
Arrived Lowestoft 2200 h 21 April

LOCALITY: East coast Inshore Area, Southern North Sea, East English Channel

AIMS:

- 1 To repeat previous groundfish surveys in the area between $51^{\circ}30'N$ and $53^{\circ}N$ and to extend the survey to $51^{\circ}N$.
- 2 To collect length compositions and otoliths of plaice, sole, cod, whiting and rays as a supplement to the market sampling programme.
- 3 To collect live dabs and bring them back to the laboratory for experimental use.
- 4 To tag small plaice, soles and cod if they are caught in sufficient numbers.

NARRATIVE

TELLINA left Lowestoft at 0900 h 7 April and docked at Ipswich at 1930 h, having completed two survey hauls on the way. Work continued on a daily basis until 12 April when all the survey hauls in the immediate area had been completed and TELLINA returned to Lowestoft, docking at 2000 h 12 April. Work then continued from Lowestoft on 13 and 14 April. After the mid-trip break which was taken on 15 and 16 April, TELLINA moved to Ramsgate on 17 April to carry out a trawling survey in the area between Margate and Folkestone.

On 18 April fresh southerly winds forced TELLINA to stay in harbour. Trawling continued the next day and continued without interruption due to weather until the vessel docked at Lowestoft at 2200 h 21 April. Work then continued from Lowestoft until 25 April apart from 24 April when thick fog kept the vessel in port.

RESULTS

1 All the 17 survey hauls of the standard groundfish survey between $51^{\circ}30'N$ and $53^{\circ}N$ were successfully completed using bobbin gear and in addition 7 new trawling stations between $51^{\circ}N$ and $51^{\circ}30'N$ were carried out. All hauls were of one hour's duration.

2 All plaice, soles, cod, whiting and rays caught were measured and otolith samples taken as follows:

Whiting	120
Plaice	83
Sole	57
Cod	104
Lemon sole	3
Eel	1

The stomach contents and maturity stages of all otolithed fish were recorded.

3 A total of 20 dabs were brought back alive to the laboratory for experimental use.

4 A total of 86 small cod and 42 small sole were tagged and released, mainly in the area between Pakefield and Kessingland.

P D Wallace
10 May 1978

Seen in draft: A J B

Initialed: A J L

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list

- Mr Wallace
- Mr White
- Mr Cross
- Dr Brander