

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

1970 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV TELLINA: CRUISE 5

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

STAFF

|             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| J D Riley   | 30 April - 7 May |
| P Scholes   | 11 May - 21 May  |
| S Lockwood  | 27 - 28 April    |
| P Walker    | 11 May - 21 May  |
| C M Worrall | 27 April - 7 May |

DURATION

27 April - 21 May

LOCALITY

English East Coast

AIMS

1. High Speed townet sampling of inshore grounds from Berwick to North Foreland
2. 4 m or 2 m beam trawl hauls in selected areas in preparation for a beam trawl survey in the autumn (TELLINA cruise 9-10)
3. Standard beam trawl survey of Filey Bay (for Mr Lockwood)
4. Collection of adult sole and possibly other flatfish for laboratory use.
5. Collection of phytoplankton between Flamborough Head and Berwick for Mr P Ayres (Burnham-on-Crouch Laboratory)

NARRATIVE

PART A

Poor weather delayed the start on Aim 1 and prevented any work on 29 April. During 27-28 April small numbers of adult flatfish were caught near Lowestoft and brought back alive for experimental use. The standard 2 m beam trawl hauls on Sizewell Bank were also completed.

A poor weather forecast on 30 April caused the original plan to go north of Lowestoft before going south to be reversed and during 30 April - 4 May coastal and estuarine plankton particularly fish eggs and larvae was sampled between Corton and Ramsgate using a 12" high speed sampler. During the return to Lowestoft Aim 2 in this area was completed. TELLINA docked at Lowestoft at 21.30 hours, 7 May.

PART B

TELLINA sailed from Lowestoft at 10.00 hours, 11 May, and proceeded north working the totnet stations at intervals until 16 May. North of Flamborough Head phytoplankton samples were taken additionally. The most northerly station worked was Goswick sands off Berwick. From here the ship sailed south working on Aim 2 and arrived at Grimsby on the evening of 18 May.

The next day was spent totnetting and taking oxygen samples in the Humber. On 20 May otter trawling was carried out off Mablethorpe to obtain sole spawning stock for the laboratory. After six hauls with very poor catches the ship sailed for Lowestoft docking at 22.30 hours the same day. At 09.30 hours, 21 May TELLINA left Lowestoft to fish the Sizewell Bank to obtain more live soles, but again fishing was very poor and after four hauls the ship returned to Lowestoft docking at 16.30 hours.

RESULTS

1. Aim 1 was completed; 47 localities between Berwick and Ramsgate were sampled
2. Experimental beam trawling had mixed results. In the Thames, quantities of dead shells regularly caused chaffed and split nets; on the northeast coast there were fewer problems. Only on the two northerly stations of Goswick sands and Skate Roads were any 1970 year class caught. These were 0 group plaice.
3. Mr Lockwood's Filey Bay survey was successfully completed
4. Adult fish for hatchery use were scarce and scattered. 15 adult sole were brought back from Mablethorpe and Sizewell and in addition immature sole for Mr Bromley and plaice for Mr Hewitt (Radiobiological Laboratory) were brought back from the River Blackwater.
5. Thirteen water samples were taken at intervals between Flamborough Head and Berwick for phytoplankton analysis for Mr Ayres (Burnham-on-Crouch Laboratory).

SEEN IN DRAFT: WB

J D Riley  
P Scholes  
S Lockwood

INITIALED

AJL

DISTRIBUTION

Basic List

J D Riley  
P Scholes  
S Lockwood  
P Walker  
C M Worrall  
Appropriate Sea Fisheries Committee Secretaries