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

1974 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV TELLINA: CRUISE 7

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

STAFF

R G Houghton
D Hyland (Fleetwood, 24 June to 3 July)
R Unsworth (Fleetwood, 3 July to 11 July)

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 0905 h 24 June
Arrived Grimsby 1300 h 11 July
All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

North-east coast

AIMS

1. To carry out a groundfish survey between $53^{\circ}30'N$ and 56° within 20m of the coast
2. To tag cod, haddock, whiting and plaice in the same area

NARRATIVE

TELLINA sailed north from Lowestoft and docked at Scarborough at 0500h 25 June. The remainder of that day was spent rigging the new Boris box-trawl which arrived immediately before departure from Lowestoft. One station was worked on 26 June just off Scarborough in a heavy swell. Bad weather prevented work during the remainder of that day and also during the next day. Four trawl stations were completed on 28 June off Flamborough and four more between Scarborough and Hartlepool on 29 June. The only damage to the net experienced during the trip occurred off Whitby during one of these hauls. Five stations were worked between Hartlepool and Shields. The next day was lost due to bad weather but five hauls were completed on 2 July within the 12m limit off Blyth. Scientific Staff changed over in Shields on the morning of 3 July. A gale again prevented work and TELLINA moved from Shields to Newcastle for the night. Four hauls were carried out on 4 July off Amble, strong winds prevented work on 5 July and caused TELLINA to run back to Shields after one haul on 6 July. There was perfect weather for fishing on the next day but during the first haul the Decca shore station was switched off. The gear came fast shortly afterwards off Seahouses and, not wishing to risk the net, further work was abandoned and TELLINA went into Amble. Two stations were completed on 8 July on the way back to Hartlepool and four more on 9 July between Hartlepool and Scarborough. Five hauls off Flamborough on 10 July before TELLINA went into Bridlington completed the work of the cruise, since a westerly gale on 11 July only just allowed TELLINA to steam to Grimsby where she docked at 1300 h 11 July.

RESULTS

1. The Boris box-trawl worked extremely well. Rigged with 18 inch bobbins and without bridles it provided a good sample of fish in an hour's tow. Clear tows were obtained or worked out for the whole of the area inside 12m from 53°30'N to 55°40'N. Of the 36 hauls, 32 were clear, 3 came fast without any damage and the codend was damaged on one haul. Cod, haddock, whiting, plaice and lemon soles were measured at each station and dabs at occasional stations. Otolith samples of each of these species were collected - 52 cod, 87 haddock, 139 whiting, 140 plaice, 32 lemon sole and 120 dabs otolith pairs. 33 of the 45 potential stations in the grid were completed.
2. 73 cod, 75 haddock, 5 whiting, 217 plaice and 50 lemon soles were marked.

R G Houghton
23 July 1974

SEEN IN DRAFT: A P

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DISTRIBUTION

Basic List

R Houghton
D Hyland) Fleetwood
R Unsworth)