

R. V. TELLINAReport for Cruise 9/67Staff

R. J. Wood
A. M. Watson

Duration

10-22nd November.

Aims

1. To investigate the distribution and abundance of sprats and 0-group herring along the East Anglian coast, and in the Thames Estuary and Wash.
2. To collect samples of herring for Dr. Khalil (Commonwealth Bureau of Helminthology).

Narrative.

Because a lengthy period of continuous bad weather prevented Tellina returning to Lowestoft at the end of the previous cruise, Cruise 9 was started from Dover.

Tellina sailed from Dover at 0500 hours on 10th November and proceed to the Thames Estuary. During the following 5 days an extensive echo and midwater trawling survey was carried out through many of the more important channels in the area. Tellina returned to Lowestoft at 1330 hours on 14th November and during the remainder of the cruise work was carried out from Lowestoft on a daily basis along the East Anglian coast. Tellina did not work further north than Winterton as an echo survey of the Wash area had already been carried out during Clione Cruise 11. Good weather conditions prevailed during the whole of this cruise and the programme was completed by the evening of 22nd November.

Results

1. An extensive "fleck" type trace was recorded over the whole of the Thames Estuary but only two small patches of "plume" type trace were located. Hauls in this area with the midwater trawl produced mainly fairly small catches of sprat, herring and whiting, the sprat catches being very uniform at about $\frac{1}{4}$ basket per hour's fishing.

Along the East Anglian coast 0-group herring were found to be very much more abundant than in November, 1966. Sprats were distributed over a very large area although no concentrations were located. Again echo traces were mainly of the "fleck" type although small plumes were also seen occasionally, and the best sprat catch here was at the rate of $2\frac{1}{4}$ baskets per hour's fishing.

At several localities along the East Anglian coast hauls with the midwater trawl were made at various depths. 0-group herring and sprats were only caught in the upper 5 fathoms or so and most of these fish were caught very close to the surface. Hauls made on abundant "spotty" trace at somewhat greater depths produced mainly whiting, cod, dabs, gobies and shrimps.

2. Several samples of both adult and 0-group herring were collected for Dr. Khalil from the Thames Estuary.

Miscellaneous

A number of sprat samples were preserved for Dr. Johnson.

R. J. Wood

23rd November, 1967

Initialled: AJL

Distribution

Dr. Cole
Mr. Lee
Captain Aldiss
Dr. Cushing
Mr. Hill
Mr. Bolster
Mr. Burd
Mr. Cattley
Mr. Garrod
Dr. Harden Jones
Mr. Iles
Dr. Jamieson
Mr. Margetts
Mr. Trout
Mr. Holden
Dr. Purdom
Mr. Bridger
Mr. Mitsun
Mr. Tungate
Mr. Williams
Mr. Wood
Mr. Adams
Mr. Mills
Mr. Kay
Miss Conolly
General Lab.
Lab. Registry
Library (2)
Mr. Whiting
Mr. Simpson
Dr. Reynolds
Chief Inspector
All District Inspectors
Fisheries Registry
Skipper Burroughs
Mr. Buchanan Wollaston
Mr. W. Baird D.A.F.S.
Mr. Glover
Hydrographic Department
Dr. Lucas
Director, N.I.O.
Dr. Peachey
Mr. Shelbourne
W.F.A.
British Trawler's Federation

Mr. A. Watson
Dr. P. O. Johnson