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

1977 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT A: R.V. TELLINA: CRUISE 10

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

STAFF:

T J Hulme Part 1
A M Watson " "

C N Humphreys Part 2
M L White " "

DURATION:

Part 1 15-27 September

Part 2 28 September-10 October

REPORT B: SHORE-BASED PUSHNETTING

STAFF:

T Watson
M L White

DURATION:

4-15 September

LOCALITY, A AND B:

East coast of England from R. Humber to North Foreland.

AIMS, A AND B:

1. To carry out a survey of 0- and 1-group flatfish stocks using the standard 2 m beam trawl and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m pushnet.
2. To tag 1-group plaice and sole.

NARRATIVE:

A. TELLINA sailed to Ipswich on 15 September, completing 7 stations on passage. The offshore Thames stations were worked on the following day before the weather broke. Strong northerly winds on 17 and 18th confined fishing to the more sheltered inshore areas of the estuary. TELLINA completed the remaining Thames stations during the next three days and returned to Lowestoft on the 22nd fishing off Dunwich and Sizewell on the way. Sampling between Lowestoft and Hemsby was carried out on a daily basis on 23, 26 and 27 September.

A change in the scientific staff took place on 28 September but strong to gale force winds prevented TELLINA leaving Lowestoft for Grimsby until 3 October. The Humber stations were completed during the next two days before strong easterly winds stopped work. A move to the Wash was made on the 7th with the stations off the Lincolnshire coast being sampled on passage. A further delay

was caused by weather on the morning of the 9th but most stations in the central and inner Wash were worked before the ship proceeded to Wells to anchor overnight. The north Norfolk stations were completed on the morning of 10 October and TELLINA proceeded to Lowestoft, docking at 1730 h.

B. The pushnet survey commenced on the evening low water of 4 September at West Runton. The Lincolnshire stations were sampled by the morning tide of the 6th and all sites north of Walberswick by the 9th. Sampling south of the Thames was carried out between 10 and 12 September and the Essex stations completed by 15 September. Weather was favourable throughout the survey and no delays were encountered.

RESULTS.

Aim 1. A total of 112 beam trawl and 27 pushnet stations were sampled. All flatfish and gadoids were measured, while the numbers of other fish species and shrimps were noted. Samples of small plaice were kept in alcohol for age determination. Catches of plaice and turbot throughout the area and sole in the Wash-Humber area were generally very poor.

The results from this survey together with those from stations worked north of the Humber by FSM 1 will be sufficient to assess the strengths of 0- and 1-group plaice, sole and turbot along the English east coast.

Aim 2. No 1-group plaice or sole were tagged.

T J Hulme
C N Humphreys
T Watson

INITIALED: AJL

SEEN IN DRAFT: AJB

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List

T J Hulme
A M Watson
C N Humphreys
M L White
T Watson
D J Symonds
J D Riley
P Walker

Sea Fisheries Committees: Kent and Essex
Eastern
North Eastern