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

1981 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

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

REPORT A: RV TELLINA: CRUISE 6

STAFF:

Part 1 W G Parnell
D W Palmer

Part 2 C N Humphreys C L Whiting
A M Watson R Millner } 5 October only

DURATION:

1-28 September and 5 October

LOCATION:

R. Humber - N. Foreland

REPORT B: SHORE-BASED PUSHNETTING

STAFF:

Part 1 C N Humphreys
T Watson

Part 2 R S Millner
D W Palmer

DURATION:

1-20 September

LOCATION:

Hartlepool - N. Foreland

REPORT C: CHARTERED COMMERCIAL VESSELS AND PUSHNETTING

STAFF:

WEST Part 1 C L Whiting EAST P Walker
J D Riley S Flatman

Part 2 C L Whiting
B C Bedford

DURATION:

1-23 September

LOCATION:

N. Foreland - Swanage Bay

AIMS:

1. ALL PROGRAMMES:

To carry out the English component to the international young flatfish assessment programme in the North Sea and eastern English Channel.

2. PROGRAMME C:

To carry out a survey of the distribution and abundance of all young fish along the eastern English Channel.

NARRATIVE:

Report A. TELLINA left Lowestoft on 1 September. The beam trawl survey commenced off Dunwich and continued uninterrupted by weather for the next 10 days. Felixstowe (4 nights), Sheerness (3 nights), and Ramsgate (2 nights) were used as bases during this period and TELLINA returned to Lowestoft on 10 September.

After the mid-cruise break and a change of scientific staff, TELLINA left Lowestoft on 14 September and sampled the Humber, Wash, Lincolnshire and North Norfolk coasts working from Grimsby and Kings Lynn before returning to Lowestoft on 23 September. Weather permitted work on only two more days from Lowestoft before the end of the cruise on 28 September.

A Lowestoft inshore trawler, MV HARVESTER, was chartered on 5 October when the remaining stations off Haisbro', Hemsby and Lowestoft were completed.

Report B. Part 1. Staff travelled to Kent on 1 September and during the next 3 days sampled along the North Kent and Isle of Sheppey beaches. During 5 and 6 September pushnet sites on the Essex coast were completed. The final 6 days were worked from Lowestoft and pushnet sites along the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts were sampled.

Part 2. Staff travelled to Hartlepool on 14 September and during the following 6 days all pushnet sites between Tees Bay and the Wash were sampled. A beam trawl survey was carried out in Bridlington Bay (MV NORTH WIND) on 17 September.

Report C. WEST. Staff travelled to Burton on 1 September. Pushnet sites in the western Solent were sampled on the following two days. A beam trawl survey was carried out in Poole harbour (MV BAY SEARCHER) on 4 September and the western Solent (MV AVON LADY) during 5-8 September. Staff travelled to Southampton on 9 September and Southampton Water was surveyed (MV MAUREEN FRANCIS) during 10-12 September. The eastern Solent and inner harbours were surveyed working from Portsmouth (MV LADY JAYNE) during 13-16 September. Various pushnet sites were also sampled during this period. Staff returned to Lowestoft on 17 September.

Messrs Whiting and Bedford travelled to the Isle of Wight on 20 September and pushnet sites were sampled the next day. Poole and Hastings offices were visited on 22 and 23 September respectively and staff returned to Lowestoft arriving at 1930 h 23 September.

EAST. Staff travelled to Folkestone on 1 September. Pushnet sites on the east Kent coast were sampled until 4 September. Beam trawling in the Folkestone/Rye area was completed (MV JO'S BOYS) during 5 and 6 September, and the Rye/Beachy Head area (MV ST RICHARD) during 7-9 September. Pushnet sites between Camber and Newhaven were sampled on 10 and 11 September. Beam trawling was completed in the Beachy Head/Worthing area (MV VILMA) during 12-15 September, together with outstanding pushnet sites. Staff travelled to the north Kent coast on 16 September and the pushnet site at Pollard Spit was sampled during the morning of 17 September, after which staff returned to Lowestoft.

RESULTS:

Aim 1. 465 beam trawl and 63 push net stations were completed. This data is now in the process of being analysed.

Aim 2. All young fish caught along the eastern English Channel were identified and measured.

GENERAL:

The willing help and cooperation of all the skippers and crews of the vessels participating in this survey are gratefully acknowledged.

C L Whiting
R Millner
W Parnell
C N Humphreys
P Walker
12 October 1981

SEEN IN DRAFT: RH

INITIALLED: DJG

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +

C L Whiting
J D Riley
W G Parnell
D W Palmer
C N Humphreys
A M Watson
T Watson
R S Millner
P Walker
S Flatman
B C Bedford

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