

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

1993 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

**REPORT: CHARTER: MV WYRE STAR
(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without reference to the author)**

STAFF: M R Vince
B F M Harley

DURATION: 16-20 August

LOCALITY: Carmarthen Bay

AIM:

To tag 2000 pre-recruit plaice and 1000 pre-recruit sole.

NARRATIVE

Staff travelled to Tenby by road on 15 August. For the following five days WYRE STAR made daily voyages to an area centred approximately 8 miles SE + E of Caldy Island. Work finished on the afternoon of 20 August when the gear was offloaded at Tenby. Staff returned to Lowestoft the following day.

RESULTS

1. The first day of the charter was used to locate the area with sufficient numbers of small plaice. By the end of the fifth day a total of 1843 plaice had been tagged with mini-petersen discs. The length range of the tagged fish was between 19 and 29 cms, with a mode around 24 cms.
2. Only small numbers of sole were caught but none were tagged.

Catches were generally small apart from the occasional haul when lesser spotted dogfish and rays were caught.

Staff acknowledge the help and co-operation of the skipper and crew of WYRE STAR.

M R Vince
27 August 1993

INITIALED: JWH

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List+

D J Symonds

B F M Harley

M R Vince

M G Pawson

South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee

Fishery Office, Milford Haven

C.F.P.O.

Skipper Leach