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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1962Cod Traps - The Statistical Bulletin

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In Table 2 of the Statistical Bulletin, for "Cod Landings by Month, Division and Gear", we find that Gear is divided into five classifications:

- (1) Otter Trawlers
- (2) Pair Trawlers
- (3) Dory Vessels
- (4) Hook and Line
- (5) Miscellaneous

In reviewing these classifications, we find that the first three items are well delimited, but this is not the case with the latter two, namely "Hook and Line" and "Miscellaneous". Hook and Line includes such items as: Long Liner, Hand Liner, and Small Inshore Line Boats; Miscellaneous includes such other items as: Small Boats, Miscellaneous Vessels Groundfish Fishing, Other Fishing (not Groundfish), Purse Seine, Stop Seine, Haul Seine, Bag Net, Gill Net (Anchor), Sink Gill Net, Drift Gill Net (Inshore and Offshore), Stake Gill Net, Fyke and Pound Net, Weirs, Pound Net, Floating Trap, Spear, Harpoon, Dip Net, Lift Net, Scallop Dredge, Pots, Rakes, Tongs, Hoos, Forks, Dredges, Cod Traps and Danish Seiner.

I bring these last two items, Cod Traps and Danish Seiner, to your attention for some consideration.

The total catch by Danish Seiners in 1958 and 1959 was 1668 Tons and 3752 Tons respectively (95% of which was flounder). Since this is not very significant when compared to the overall catch for the Convention Area, it would appear that it could very well remain under Miscellaneous in Tables 2-6, but would continue to be shown in Tables 8 and 9 as "Danish Seiner" (Canada: Maritimes & Quebec - Newfoundland).

If we examine the Canadian figures for Newfoundland under "Miscellaneous Vessels Groundfish Fishing" in Subarea 3 for 1958, we find a quantity of 128,021 Tons of cod. In Table 8 this figure is included under "Small Boat - Canada (N)", and in using the key for "breakdown by gear" which is provided in Table 9, we come up with the following synthesis:

	By Small Boat (Table 8)	Percent caught by Cod Trap (Table 9)	Calculated Amt. by Cod Trap
3K	33,671 Tons	65%	21,886 Tons
3L	66,219 "	60%	39,731 "
3Pn	5,508 "	10%	551 "
3Ps	22,623 "	10%	2,262 "
	<u>128,021 Tons</u>		<u>64,430 Tons</u>

This indicates that 50.3% of the figure shown under small boats in Table 8 for Subarea 3 is caught by Cod Traps. (There were also 5416 Tons (30%) caught by Cod Traps in 4R.)

We should further note that of the 292,796 Tons of cod caught in the whole of Subarea 3 by all gears by all countries, 22% came from Cod Traps.

The 1959 Statistical Bulletin reports 176,673 Tons of cod for Subarea 3 under Miscellaneous Vessels Groundfish Fishing for Canada (N), which may be similarly presented provided that these percentages remain constant.

The 1960 figure for Canada (Newfoundland) in all subareas will be in the vicinity of 217,435 Tons of cod by miscellaneous gears (which includes cod trap, handlines and longlines pulled by hand).

A review of the 1960 figures for Canada (Maritimes and Quebec) shows the following quantities actually caught by Trap:

	<u>All Species</u>	<u>Cod</u>
4S	2037 Tons	(2037) Tons
4T	280 "	(193) "
4Vn	491 "	(7) "
4W	732 "	(10) "
4X	780 "	(39) "

The landing figures are also being submitted for United States by various types of traps, while Denmark (Greenland) reports its inshore catch either under small boats or as Greenlander, and France (St. Pierre et Miquelon) reports for Small Boats.

I leave these thoughts with the Subcommittee on Statistics and Sampling for consideration with the reservation that should it be decided to set up a classification for Cod Traps, then also the type of gear to be included should be defined.

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