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by

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The Japanese trawlers, one small vessel less than 1,000 GRT, 5 medium sized vessels of 1,000-2,000 GRT and 10 large vessels over 2,000 GRT, fished in Subarea 3, 4 and 5 and in Statistical Area 6 during 1974, yielding a preliminary total of 28,581 tons. The amount is about 10,000 tons less than in the previous year.

Principal species caught were common American squid (13,523 tons), short finned squid (3,342 tons), butterfish (5,457 tons) and herring (3,452 tons).

Subarea 3

A. STATUS OF THE FISHERIES

The catch by Japanese trawlers in Subarea 3 sharply decreased from 3,041 tons in 1973 to 1,241 tons in 1974. The fishing grounds were mainly in 3P (about 94 per cent of the total catch) for redfish and argentine. Changes of annual catch by species and the amounts of effort expended by Japanese trawlers between 1968 and 1974 is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Catch in Subarea 3, 1968-1974

| Year | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974* |
|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Hours fished | 1,043 | 410 | 1,861 | 3,160 | 902 | 1,059 | |
| Total catch in tons | 1,672 | 810 | 3,511 | 8,136 | 1,558 | 3,041 | 1,241 |
| Redfish | 774 | 533 | 2,586 | 7,600 | 1,345 | 2,898 | 668 |
| Argentine | 145 | 106 | 793 | 444 | 165 | 101 | 546 |
| Cod | 574 | 83 | 49 | 14 | 1 | - | - |
| Haddock | 6 | 1 | 6 | - | - | 3 | - |
| Flatfishes | 38 | 21 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8 | - |
| Herring | - | - | 0 | - | 0 | 1 | - |

* Preliminary

B. SPECIAL RESEARCH STUDIES

1. Biological Studies

Length measurements of redfish and argentine were made on board the commercial trawlers in Divisions 3P and 3L.

Subarea 4

A. STATUS OF THE FISHERIES

The catch by Japanese trawlers in this Subarea also decreased substantially from 5,000 tons in 1973 to 1,700 tons in 1974. Main species sought in this Subarea was herring in 4X.

Table 2 Catch in Subarea 4, 1968-1974

| Year | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974* |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Hours fished | 1,075 | 896 | 2,176 | 1,673 | 2,306 | 3,334 | |
| Total catch in tons | 2,012 | 1,936 | 4,779 | 4,499 | 4,412 | 4,953 | 1,686 |
| Redfish | 524 | 251 | 967 | 1,164 | 2,298 | 1,746 | 169 |
| Pollock | - | - | - | 10 | 12 | 1,554 | 40 |
| Herring | 9 | 14 | 100 | 88 | 1,394 | 1,055 | 1,010 |
| Argentine | 1,086 | 1,256 | 2,940 | 2,879 | 446 | 209 | 12 |
| Silver hake | 76 | 213 | 128 | 9 | 96 | 91 | 67 |
| Cod | 21 | 39 | 154 | 6 | 46 | 23 | 6 |
| Flatfishes | 28 | 21 | 9 | 1 | 23 | 20 | 299 |
| Haddock | 18 | 20 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 10 | - |
| White hake | - | - | 17 | 31 | 16 | 5 | 5 |

* Preliminary

B. SPECIAL RESEARCH STUDIES

1. Biological Studies

Length measurements were carried out on board the commercial boats for redfish.

2. Exploratory fishing

As was done in the last year, an exploratory fishing on short finned squid by means of the jigging by JAMARC(Nippon Kaiyo Suisan Shigen Kaihatsu Center) was again carried out around the Nova Scotia and Georges Bank waters in depth of 150 m to 200 m during June to October.

Subarea 5

A. STATUS OF THE FISHERIES

Some increase of catch was observed in Subarea 5 in 1974 compared to the catch in the previous year. Main fishing grounds for squids, both of Loligo and Illex, were in 5Ze and for butterfish in 5Zw.

Table 3 Catch in Subarea 5, 1968-1974

| Year | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974* |
|---------------------|------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Hours fished | 540 | 8,216 | 9,310 | 10,196 | 10,387 | 8,918 | |
| Total catch in tons | 724 | 8,789 | 10,722 | 16,938 | 12,745 | 10,710 | 13,888 |
| Squid(Loligo) | 113 | 3,902 | 5,086 | 5,008 | 7,871 | 5,661 | 6,664 |
| " (Illex) | - | - | - | - | 183 | 147 | 642 |
| Butterfish | 328 | 1,291 | 1,724 | 867 | 1,177 | 2,289 | 3,806 |
| Herring | 1 | 527 | 1,222 | 3,109 | 1,295 | 1,652 | 2,442 |
| Silver hake | 52 | 229 | 73 | 195 | 175 | 202 | - |
| Mackerel | 1 | 197 | 463 | 322 | 583 | 149 | 98 |
| Argentine | - | 976 | 368 | 5,739 | 86 | 90 | - |
| Flatfishes | 2 | 79 | 138 | 7 | 6 | 16 | 39 |
| Red hake | - | - | 1 | 7 | 7 | 14 | - |
| Cod | 2 | 45 | 15 | 19 | 100 | 3 | - |
| White hake | - | - | 158 | 109 | 100 | 1 | - |
| Haddock | 3 | 9 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 1 | - |

* Preliminary

B. SPECIAL RESEARCH STUDIES

1. Biological Studies

Length measurements for butterfish and Loligo squid were carried out on board the commercial vessels.

Age and growth of Loligo squid was studied and documented.

Stock assessment of Loligo squid was renewed, using the recent data of Japanese catch records and the informations surveyed by USA, R/V Albatross IV.

Statistical Area 6

A. STATUS OF THE FISHERIES

Japanese catch in the area decreased from 22,180 tons in 1973 to 11,766 tons in 1974. Catch of butterfish in this year fell to 17 per cent of the catch in the previous year.

Table 4 Catch in Statistical Area 6, 1968-1974

| Year | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974* |
|---------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Hours fished | 4,056 | 8,623 | 16,112 | 13,564 | 13,498 | 20,639 | |
| Total catch in tons | 6,536 | 8,133 | 18,933 | 13,688 | 14,961 | 22,180 | 11,766 |
| Butterfish | 3,198 | 2,010 | 6,897 | 4,914 | 2,637 | 9,882 | 1,649 |
| Squid(Loligo) | 1,619 | 3,805 | 8,275 | 6,478 | 7,970 | 8,795 | 6,855 |
| " (Illex) | - | - | - | - | 2,207 | 918 | 2,700 |
| Mackerel | 311 | 326 | 1,036 | 838 | 1,005 | 295 | 168 |
| Silver hake | 30 | 44 | 255 | 80 | 260 | 251 | 44 |
| Red hake | - | - | 2 | 7 | - | 2 | - |
| White hake | - | - | 58 | 105 | 12 | 4 | - |

* Preliminary

B. SPECIAL RESEARCH STUDIES

1. Biological Studies

Length measurements for main species sought by Japanese trawlers were carried out on board the commercial trawlers.