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Sealing Statistics for the Northwest Atlantic - 1976

by

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Reports on sealing catch and effort in the Northwest Atlantic in 1976 have been received from Canada and Norway for the "Front" and "Gulf" areas. Danish seal catches in Subarea 1 are not usually available at this time but are received in time for inclusion in the tables prior to their publication in the Research Bulletin. Table 1 contains all available information on harp and hooded seal catches, as well as the catches of other species of seals, for the calendar year 1976. Table 2 contains the corresponding statistics on seal hunting effort. It should be noted that Norwegian statistics for harp seals do not distinguish between "bedlamer" and "old harp" (Table 1), and that some effort data are lacking (as indicated by ... in Table 2) for Canada.

Abbreviations and Definitions

Countries

Can(M)	- Canada (Maritime Provinces)
Can(N)	- Canada (Newfoundland)
Can(Q)	- Canada (Quebec)
Den(G)	- Denmark (Greenland)

Common and scientific names

Harp seal	- <i>Fagophilus groenlandicus</i>
Hooded seal	- <i>Cystophora cristata</i>

Definition of seal age categories

Whitecoat	- less than 2 weeks old with unmoulted white fur (lanugo)
Beater	- more than 2 weeks old
Bedlamer	- 1 year or older with spotted pelt, roughly equivalent to immature animals
Old harp	- animals with conspicuous saddle mark on back and sides, roughly equivalent to mature animals

Explanation of effort terms

Engine HP	- brake horsepower
Landsmen	- shore fishermen, including those using very small vessels
No. of men	- total number in crew if "vessel" and number of hunters if "landsmen"
Days absent	- number of days absent from port including the day the vessel sails but not the day of landing

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Table 1. Harp and hooded seal catches in the Northwest Atlantic - 1976.

Area	Catching category	Country	HARP SEALS					HOODED SEALS			Other species of seals	GRAND TOTAL
			White-coat	Beater	Bed-lamer	Old harp	Total harps	Young	1 and older	Total hooded		
SA 1		Den(G) ³	(No report received for 1976)									
Front ¹	Ships ≥ 150 GRT	Can(M)	22441	1273	8	28	23750	228	198	426	-	24176
		Can(N)	24561	2501	1999	221	29282	1416	1423	2839	-	32121
		Norway	24106	19057	(2320)		45483	4421	4097	8518	-	54001
	Ships < 150 GRT	Can(N)	125	10283	11738	2453	24599	379	83	462	86	25147
		Landsmen	Can(N)	-	16140	4319	1539	21998	37	30	67	3488
	TOTAL		71233	49254	(24625)	145112	6481	5831	12312	3574	160998	
Gulf ²	Ships < 150 GRT	Can(N)	1503	2346	638	2889	7376	13	10	23	-	7399
		Can(Q)	2924	-	-	71	2995	-	-	-	-	2995
	Landsmen	Can(M)	33	382	-	-	415	-	-	-	-	415
		Can(N)	586	3253	200	121	4160	46	4	50	187	4397
		Can(Q)	508	63	-	4373	4944	-	-	-	-	4944
	TOTAL		5554	6044	838	7454	19890	59	14	73	187	20150
ALL AREAS		Den(G)										
		Canada	52681	36241	18902	11695	119519	2119	1748	3867	3761	127147
		Norway	24106	19057	(2320)		45483	4421	4097	8518	-	54001
		TOTAL	76787	55298	(32917)		165002	6540	5845	12385	3761	181148

Table 2. Statistics of seal hunting effort in the Northwest Atlantic - 1976.

Area	Catching category	Country	No. of vessels	Tonnage		Engine HP	No. of men	Days absent	Seals caught
				Gross	Net				
SA 1		Den(G) ³							
Front ¹	Ships ≥ 150 GRT	Can(M)	3	2993	1388	4600	89	111	24176
		Can(N)	4	2670	1664	4100	100	122	32121
		Norway	6	2645	1022	11495	113	248	54001
	Ships < 150 GRT	Can(N)	123	3210	2390	15565	501	2670	25147
		Landsmen	Can(N)	1648	-	-	-	3252	-
Gulf ²	Ships < 150 GRT	Can(N)	61	1999	1489	10243	270	332	7399
		Can(Q)	3	201 ⁴	...	2995
	Landsmen	Can(M)	...	-	-	-	40	-	415
		Can(N)	410	-	-	-	795	-	4397
		Can(Q)	...	-	-	-	2093 ⁴	-	4944

¹ Subareas 2 and 3, excluding Div. 3P.

² Subarea 4, including Div. 3P.

³ Statistics not yet available.

⁴ For Canada (Q), number of men for ships < 150 GRT included in figure for landsmen.