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German Democratic Republic Research Report for 1980

by

L. Danke

Institut für Hochseefischerei und Fischverarbeitung
251 Rostock-Marienehe 5, German Democratic Republik

The GDR nominal catch in the NAFO Area in 1980 was 4898 tons. This was a decrease of about 6 thousand tons compared to 1979. The fishery took place in NAFO-Subareas 2 and 3. The main species in the catches was redfish (table 1).

Table 1: Nominal catches for species in the NAFO Area

	1980	1979
Cod	879	10 012 ^{**}
Redfishes	2 757	711
Roundnose grenadier	898	480
Greenland halibut	320	178
Witch	16	22
American plaice	1	9
Wolffishes	3	64
Skates	4	3
total	4 898	11 479

^{**}Includes 8470 tons taken by GDR vessels under cooperative arrangements with Canada

Subareas 0 and 1

No commercial fishing and no research were carried out in this area.

Subareas 2 and 3

A. Status of the Fisheries

As in previous years also in 1980 the fishery activity was

strongly connected with the quota regulations. So the catches show clearly neither stockvariations nor seasonal characteristics. The fishery was carried out by sterntrawlers of the "Zubringer-Trawler"-type (30 %) and factory trawlers.

1. Cod

Only during March (2J + 3K) and December (2H) the cod was the main species sought. The main divisions were 2H and 3K (table 2).

Table 2: Nominal catch (tons) in SA 2 and 3 by divisions

	2G	2H	2J	3K	3L	3N	3M	total 1980
Cod	-	344	130	349	30	3	23	879
Redfish	-	10	137	955	375	- 1	290	2 767
Roundnose grenadier	5	167	713	13	-	-	-	898
Greenland halibut	3	72	221	13	7	-	4	320
others	-	1	10	12	11	-	-	34
total	8	594	1 211	1 342	423	3 1	317	4 898

Concerning c.p.u.e. in catch per hour (factory trawler) it seems to be a slightly decreasing tendency. The values are situated between 1.48 (3K, March) and 1.79 (2J, March) tons. For December the catch per hour was also smaller than catches of 1979, 1.50 tons.

2. Greenland halibut, Roundnose grenadier

A specialized fishery for one of these both species in 1980 was not carried out, everytime it was a mixed fishery. In the 4 th quarter the catches originated in the main part from division 2J. The fishery in Subarea 3 was without importance. During November the fish search in the midwater region was without results. The catch per hour for factory trawlers and sterntrawlers of the "Zubringer"-type fluctuated between 1 and 2 t.

3. Redfish

The redfish catches amounted to 2767 tons in 1980. So in 1980 redfish was the main species of the Northwestatlantic-fishery. During March and April in Subdivisions 2J, 3K, 3L and 3M for factory trawlers and sterntrawlers of the "Zubringer-Trawler"-type and also during October until December in Subdivisions 2H, 2J and 3K the redfish fishery took place. With bottomtrawls in depths of 300-670 m and midwater trawls in depths of 500-620 m the catches per hour in 1980 increased clearly. Fishery-activities in Subarea 3M showed good results in the spring season.

B Special Research Studies

1. Environmental Studies

No data

2. Biological Studies

Data of one commercial sample show the 1975 year-class as the dominating one. ^{cod}

Subarea 4, Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

No commercial fishing and research were conducted in these areas.

