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German Research Report for 1994

by

H.-J. Rätz¹, M. Stein² and P. Cornus²

¹ Institute for Sea Fisheries, Hamburg Branch Office Bremerhaven
Fischkai 35, 27572 Bremerhaven, FRG

² Institute for Sea Fisheries, Hamburg
Palmaille 9, 22767 Hamburg, FRG

Sub-area 1

A. Status of the Fishery

In 1994, German catches taken within the NAFO Division 1D amounted to 217 tons Greenland halibut and 12 tons roundnose grenadier. A total catch of 74 tons redfish was reported for Division 1F. The low catch level is due to a reduction in effort.

B. Special Studies

1. Environment

During the German groundfish survey (12.10.-19.11.94), fishery oceanographic measurements were performed at 84 fishing stations by means of CTD/rosette. Additionally, temperature and salinity at stations of 4 NAFO standard oceanographic sections off West Greenland (Cape Desolation, Frederikshaab, Fylla and Store Hellefiske Bank) were measured in order to describe climatic trends. For the annual meeting of the Scientific Council of NAFO a climatic review for the Greenland area is prepared which comprises information on air temperature anomalies and ice distribution (Stein, 1995).

Vertical distribution of temperature in the upper 750m of the North Atlantic Ocean was mapped by means of XBT-sections (54 drops) during sailings for and from Greenland. These data were transmitted by METEOSAT to the IGOSS network.

2. Biological Studies

Since 1982, annual groundfish surveys were conducted. During the fourth quarter, stratified random surveys covered shelf areas and the continental slope off West Greenland (Divisions 1B-1F) outside the 3-mile limit to the 400m isobath.

In October/November 1994, 78 valid hauls were carried out. The survey area was completely covered. Total catch amounted to 2,531 kg. 22,367 specimens were classified to 62 taxonomic units. Assessments of the stock status for ecologically and economically important groundfish species are documented (Rätz 1995a and b; Lloret, 1995).

No biological data on commercial catches or landings are available for 1994, but length structure of German redfish landings is reevaluated for the period 1962-78.

Sub-areas 2 and 3

A. Status of the Fishery

No fishing was conducted in 1994. Fishing activities were transferred mainly to the oceanic redfish stock in the Reykjanes-Ridge area.

B. Special Studies

1. Environment

No research in relation to environment was carried out by Germany in NAFO Sub-areas 2 and 3.

2. Biological studies

No biological samplings or studies were performed by Germany in NAFO Sub-areas 2 and 3.

References:

- Lloret, J. 1995. Stock Abundance and Biomass, Distribution and Length Structure of American Plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*, Fabricius 1780) off West Greenland (NAFO Divisions 1B-1F, 0-400m), 1982-94. Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1995.
- Rätz, H.-J. 1995a. Status of the Demersal Fish Assemblage off West Greenland, 1982-94 (Divisions 1B-1F, 0-400m). Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1995.
- Rätz, H.-J. 1995b. Redfish Subarea 1 (0-400m): Groundfish Survey Results, 1982-94, and Length Structure of German Landings, 1962-78. Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1995.
- Stein, M. 1995. Climatic conditions around Greenland - 1994. Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1995.