

Northwest Atlantic



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Japanese Research Report for 1993

by

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The total nominal catch by Japanese trawlers from the NAFO waters decreased (44%) to 3,400 tons in 1994 from 6,000 tons in 1993. This was mainly due to an decrease in Greenland halibut (40%) and in Atlantic redfish (51%). The catch of Greenland halibut was down to 2,600 tons in 1994 from 4,400 tons in 1993. The catch of Atlantic redfish was down to 600 tons in 1994 from 1,200 tons in 1993. All the catch of Atlantic redfish was obtained in Divs. 3LM. There were no fisheries in Subareas 2 and 4 in 1994. There were no catches of capelin and Illex in 1994.

The number of Japanese trawlers operated in the NAFO waters increased to five in 1994 from four in 1993. They were one 3,000, one 500, one 400 and two 300 GRT class stern trawlers. Total fishing effort decreased (42%) to 5,300 hours fished in 1994 from 9,200 hours in 1993. This was mainly due to a decrease in NAFO regulatory area.

The fishing grounds of Japanese trawlers were located on the continental slopes off Baffin Island (0B), West Greenland (1BCD), Flemish Pass (3L) and Flemish Cap (3M). Japanese trawlers moved among these fishing grounds, as done in the previous years.

I. Subarea 0

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted at depths around 1000 m in Div. 0B during July-October. The catch of Greenland halibut was 600 tons. Mesh sizes of the cod-end used were 135 mm.

II. Subarea 1

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted at depths around 1000 m in Div. 1CD during June-November. The catch of Greenland halibut decreased (27%) to 800 tons in 1993 from 1,200 tons in 1992. As in 1993, most of the by-catch of the fishery was roundnose grenadier but its ratio was very low (5% of the total). Mesh sizes of the cod-end used was 140 mm.

B. Special Research Studies

A Japan and Greenland Joint Research on Groundfish off Greenland

Under an agreement between the Japan Marine Fishery Resource Research Center (JAMARC) and the Greenland Trawling Company of the Greenland Home Rule (GTC), two types of trawl surveys (scientific survey and exploratory surveys) have been conducted in off Greenland since 1987 by using R/V Shinkai Maru.

In 1994, one stratified random bottom trawl survey was conducted in Divs. 1BCD during 2-21 in August. The catch of Greenland halibut in this survey was 7.4 tons. The results are reported in a research document of this meeting.

IV. Subarea 3

A. Status of the Fisheries

The directed fishery for Greenland halibut was conducted mainly in Divs. 3LM at depths of 500-1000m all year around. The Greenland halibut catch slightly increased (3%) to 2,600 tons in 1994. The redfish directed fishery was conducted mainly in Divs. 3M during winter and spring. Of the total 570 tons of the redfish catch, more than 85% was obtained in Div. 3M. Mesh sizes of the cod-end used were 130-142 mm. There were no capelin and squid-directed fisheries in 1993.

Table 1. Fishing efforts and catches (tons) by species of Japanese trawl fishery in each NAFO Division in 1993 and 1994.

Year	1994																Total								
	OB	IA	IB	IC	ID	IE	IF	2G	2H	2J	3K	3L	3M	3N	3O	4Vn		4Vs	4W	4X	5Ze	5Zw	6A	6B	
Hours fished	1048	-	7	670	972	-	-	-	-	-	-	910	1,739	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,346
Total catch	672	-	1	432	442	-	-	-	-	-	-	648	1,172	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,366
Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redfish	0	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	488	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	570
Silver hake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenland halibut	599	-	0	387	432	-	-	-	-	-	-	516	662	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,596
Capelin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Squid-//ex	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	73	-	0	45	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200

Table 1. continued.

Year	1993																Total						
	0B	1A	1B	1C	1D	1E	1F	2G	2H	2J	3K	3L	3M	3N	3O	4W		4X	5Ze	5Zw	6A	6B	
Hours fished	812	188	5	2,254	104	-	1,059	8	-	-	894	3,672	-	214	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,210	
Total catch	271	40	119	1,385	55	-	575	4	-	-	1,254	2,441	-	167	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,311	
Cod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redfish	-	0	8	15	0	-	-	-	-	-	36	967	-	158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,183	
Silver hake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenland halibut	252	36	102	1,246	48	-	406	2	-	-	1,168	1,341	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,603	
Capelin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Squid- <i>Illex</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	18	4	10	125	8	-	169	2	-	-	51	133	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	525	