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German Research Report for 1995

by

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Sub-area I

A. Status of the Fishery

No fishing was conducted in 1995. Fishing activities of the far distance fleets were transferred mainly to the oceanic redfish stock in the Reykjanes-Ridge area.

B. Special Studies

1. Environment

During the German groundfish survey (11.09.-26.10.95), fishery oceanographic measurements were performed at 35 fishing stations by means of CTD/rosette. Additionally, temperature and salinity at stations of 2 NAFO standard oceanographic sections off West Greenland (Cape Farvel, Cape Desolation) 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, 1996).

Vertical distribution of temperature in the upper 750m of the North Atlantic Ocean was mapped by means of XBT-sections during sailings for and from Greenland (3 hours interval). 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 1995, 35 valid hauls were carried out. The survey area was covered by 50% only due to technical problems. Total catch amounted to 595 kg. 17,247 specimens were classified to 49 taxonomic units. Assessments of the stock status for ecologically and economically important groundfish species are documented (Rätz 1996a and b; Lloret, 1996).

Sub-areas 2 and 3

A. Status of the Fishery

No fishing was conducted in 1995. Fishing activities of the far distance fleets 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. 1996. Population Dynamics of American Plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*) off West Greenland (NAFO Divisions 1B-1F, 0-400m), 1982-94. Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1996.
- Rätz, H.-J. 1996a. Status of the Demersal Fish Assemblage off West Greenland, 1982-95 (Divisions 1B-1F, 0-400m). Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1996.
- Rätz, H.-J. 1996b. Redfish Subarea 1 (0-400m): Groundfish Survey Results, 1982-95, and Length Structure of German Catches, 1962-90. Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1996.
- Stein, M. 1996. Climatic Conditions Around Greenland - 1995. Announced for NAFO Scientific Council Meeting June 1996.