



ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1955

ICELANDIC RESEARCH REPORT

The Age Distribution of Icelandic Trawler Caught Cod  
on Store Hellefiske Bank in 1954

The material on the age-distribution of Greenland cod, presented here, covers three fishing areas on the Store Hellefiske Bank: the southern part, the middle of the bank and the northern part. It was collected on board the Icelandic trawler "Thorkell Mani" under the supervision of its captain, Mr. Hallgrimur Guomundsson.

The table gives the average position of the fishing grounds in question, together with the date and the age distribution (%) of the samples.

Year- Class	Age	7 Aug/54	9-11 Aug/54	16 Aug/54	Total
		66°49'N 54°45'W	67°22'N 55°24'W	67°50'N 54°20'W	
1950	4	2.2	3.4	1.7	2.5
1949	5	4.0	2.2	1.3	2.5
1948	6	23.5	15.9	13.8	17.8
1947	7	54.7	61.4	69.6	61.5
1946	8	5.4	7.1	5.8	6.2
1945	9	5.8	4.7	5.4	5.3
1944	10	1.4	1.2	0.4	1.1
1943	11	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.5
1942	12	2.5	3.1	1.3	2.4
1941	13	-	0.3	-	0.1
1940	14	-	-	-	-
1939	15	-	0.3	-	0.1
Total		276	321	240	837

There is a rather peculiar rise in the percentage of the 1947 year-class as we advance north. This was also noted in the material from 1952 where the 1947 year-class was more abundant on the northern banks; 63.3% of the catches on Store Hellefiske Bank, compared to 44.5% on the Fyllas Bank.

The lack of the 1945 year-class is very conspicuous. In 1953 it made up 36% of the trawler catches on Fyllas Bank, but this year it amounted to only 5.3% of the catches on the Store Hellefiske Bank.

We do not know if it has migrated southwards or to the depths off the bank. In our material from 1953 the greatest part of it had reached maturity so the absence from the bank might be the result of a new phase in its biology.

Jon Jonsson

- THE END -