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United Kingdom Research Report for 1959

Commercial Fishing

Effort and landings in 1959 were both slightly higher than in 1958. In all, 64 trips were made to Subarea 1, from which 199,022 cwt of cod was landed. The catch per unit effort increased, from 2.75 to 3.69 cwts per 100 ton-hours.

Market sampling

During 1959 regular measurement was made of cod landed from Subarea 1 at Hull and Grimsby. In all 4,569 fish were measured. The results appear in table attached. 153 otoliths were collected for age determination.

Fish Stock Assessments

Members of the population teams of the Lowestoft and Aberdeen Laboratories have, as requested, been reviewing the fish stock data available for the Commission's Areas 1 and 2 in conjunction with representatives of Denmark and Portugal, and the results have been communicated to the ICNAF special population dynamics meeting in Lowestoft, 1960.

Comparative Fishing

Although no comparative fishing experiments were conducted in the ICNAF area in 1959, experiments undertaken elsewhere are relevant to the Commission's programme. In particular, further work was done on the cod-end topside chafer problem, particularly with a different kind of chafer which may have opened the way towards a more satisfactory solution to this problem; preliminary results were communicated to the ICES meeting in October 1959. The Scottish spring-load mesh measuring gauge has been slightly modified in accordance with Dutch suggestions and has been recommended by ICES for international adoption by its scientists. Notes on these two matters will be prepared for the next meeting of the Research and Statistics Committee.

Plankton

The continuous plankton recorder survey conducted from the Oceanographic Laboratory in Edinburgh was extended during 1959 to the western boundary of the ICES area and into the ICNAF area, by means of records taken between Iceland and Newfoundland with the invaluable assistance of Icelandic scientists. Preliminary results show the potential value of a series of such continuous records, both in terms of plankton in general and Sebastes larvae in particular; an interim report on records of young Sebastes obtained by this method was presented to the ICES/ICNAF Redfish Symposium in Copenhagen.

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GREENLAND COD 1959

BRITISH LANDINGS

(numbers of fish in each 3-cm group)

Length	Jan-March	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Total
30				483	483
33					
36				1,671	1,671
39				28,880	28,880
42		1		84,647	84,712
45	2,814	3,489	2,519	111,908	120,730
48	880	6,890	6,707	89,781	104,258
51	10,432	4,538	9,307	97,309	121,586
54	24,171	16,569	23,868	114,563	179,171
57	30,874	31,586	30,944	129,183	222,587
60	53,394	61,542	24,304	214,289	353,529
63	54,339	59,480	35,414	212,272	361,505
66	56,230	55,357	57,634	208,236	377,457
69	92,986	56,284	64,806	203,161	417,237
72	111,364	56,748	68,392	200,624	437,128
75	73,365	47,954	101,158	144,601	367,078
78	63,840	42,489	93,460	119,429	319,218
81	44,789	31,559	78,062	69,086	223,496
84	29,423	19,122	43,068	35,875	127,488
87	21,740	12,904	25,570	19,270	79,484
90	8,797	3,141	11,163	11,216	34,317
93	6,453	2,350	9,753	8,648	27,204
96	1,766	768	6,932	3,512	12,978
99	1,469	280	3,549	1,810	7,108
102	1,321	37	1,848	959	4,175
105		18	34	312	364
108		12	46	208	266
111			72		72
114			46		46
117			34		34
120			106		106
123			106		106
126			106		106
129			35		35
132					
135					
138			35		35
141			106		106
144			106		106
147			106		106
Total	690,448	513,184	699,404	2,111,933	4,014,969