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Iceland Research Report, 1962 by Jon Jonsson

Fishing

In 1962 Icelandic trawlers only spent 342 days fishing in the Convention area as compared to 1,312 fishing days in 1961.

This very low fishing effort is greatly due to a long strike by the trawlers during the spring months. In the year of 1962 only 10 fishing trips were made to the Labrador-Newfoundland banks and 22 to the West Greenland banks.

The catch of redfish on the Labrador-Newfoundland banks amounted to 2,106 tons compared with 4,527 tons the year before. At West Greenland the redfish catch was 4,493 tons compared with 7,805 tons in 1961. In this area the catch of cod was 1,157 tons compared with 11,032 tons in the year before.

The catch per day fishing for redfish in the Labrador-Newfoundland area was substantially lower in 1962 than in 1961, but at West Greenland the opposite was the case. As for cod at West Greenland, the catch per day fishing was much lower in 1962 than in 1961.

Sampling

Collection of samples from the trawlers was very difficult because of the few trips made, and no material is available from the Labrador-Newfoundland area, whereas some samples of cod and redfish were taken from trawlers fishing at West Greenland.

A sample of cod from Dana's bank in February 1962 shows the strong yearclass from 1953, but it is mostly dominated by the yearclasses from 1956 and 1957 which is in good agreement with the age distribution in the catches of Icelandic trawlers in 1961.