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A. Status of the Fisheries

In 1963 Icelandic trawlers fished for redfish and cod in ICNAF Subareas 1, 3 and in East Greenland waters. They made 48 trips to the ICNAF areas compared with 32 in 1962. In addition 36 trips were made to East Greenland waters. Total fishing effort in 1963 is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Fishing effort of Icelandic trawlers at East Greenland and in the ICNAF area in 1963

	No. hours	No. hauls	No. days fished	Trips
Subarea 1				
Div. 1C	56	44	6	1
Div. 1D	1,727	1,815	216	18
Div. 1E	731	757	101	10
Subarea 3				
Div. 3K	1,966	1,710	174	19
East Greenland	4,832	3,891	441	36

I. Redfish. Table 2 shows that the most important area for redfish was Division 3K, where the catch per 100 hours fishing was 224 tons, about the double of that in Division 1D and East Greenland.

The catch of redfish in Subarea 3 was about double that in 1962, but this is caused by a similar increase in fishing effort. On the other hand, redfish seem to have been less abundant in Subarea 1 in 1963 than in 1962 as far as Icelandic trawlers are concerned.

Table 2. Total catch of redfish and cod and catch per 100 hours fishing of Icelandic trawlers at East Greenland and in the ICNAF Area in 1963 (tons)

	Redfish		Cod	
	Total catch	Catch/100 hours	Total catch	Catch/100 hours
Subarea 1				
Div. 1C	7	12.5	103	183.9
Div. 1D	1,871	108.3	2,173	125.8
Div. 1E	350	47.9	1,605	219.5
Subarea 3				
Div. 3K	4,405	224.1	756	38.5
East Greenland	5,941	122.9	1,443	29.9

II. Cod. Table 2 shows that cod were found in greatest abundance in Divisions 1D and 1E. In the latter division, the catch per 100 hours fishing was 220 tons. The catch per trip was two and a half times that of 1962.

Fig. 1 shows the age distribution of cod in the catches of Icelandic trawlers from East Greenland, West Greenland and Labrador in April-May 1963.

For comparison there is also shown the age distribution of the spawning stock of cod in Iceland in January-May of the same year.

There is a remarkable agreement in the age distribution. The 1956 year class is abundant in all areas, together with the 1957 year class at West Greenland and Labrador. The 1953 year class also seems to have been strong in all areas.

In Fig. 2 are shown the average lengths of the age groups in Fig. 1. The well known differences in the growth rate of cod in these areas are clearly demonstrated.

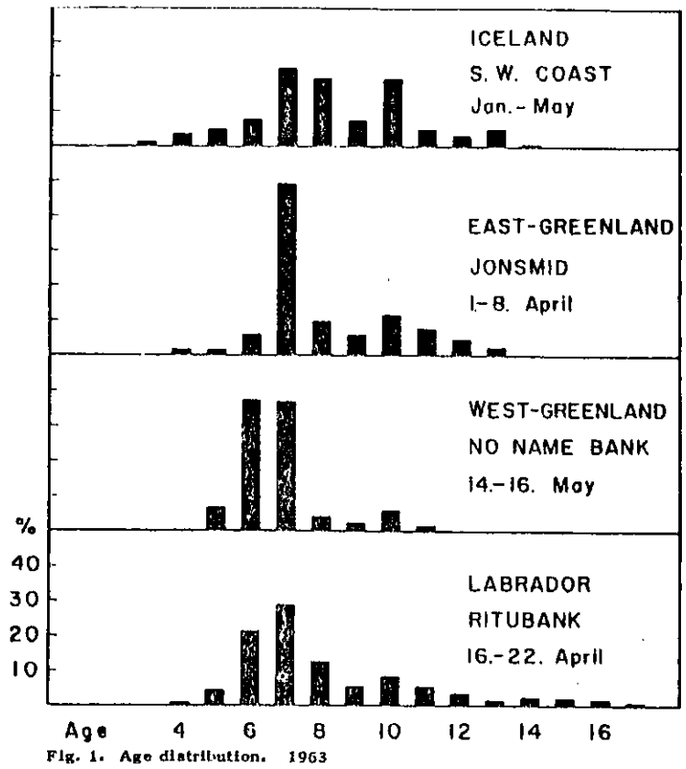

Fig. 1. Age distribution. 1963

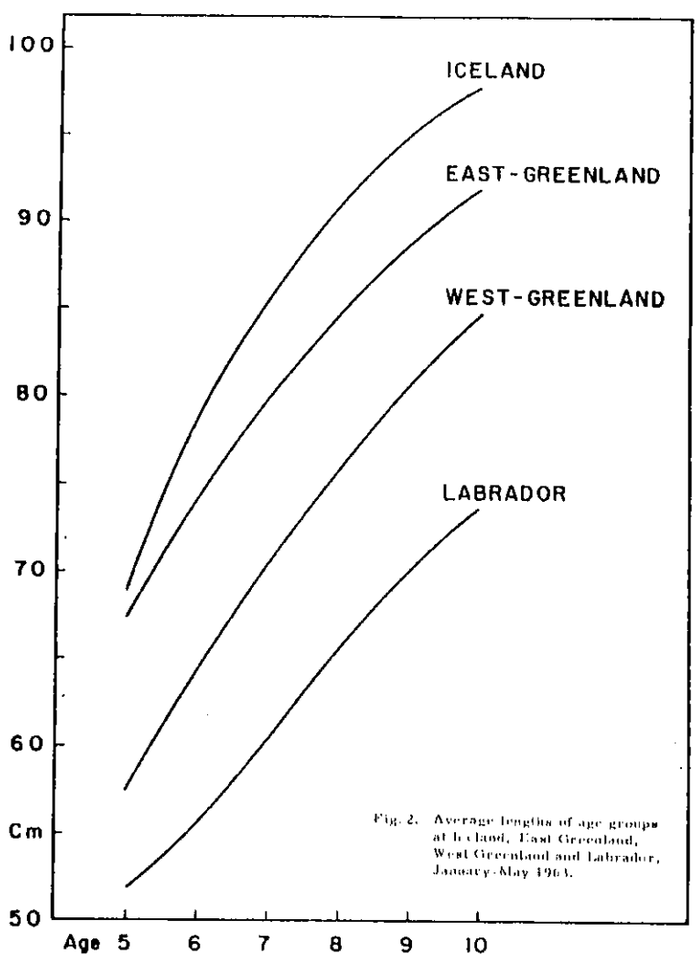

Fig. 2. Average lengths of age groups at Iceland, East Greenland, West Greenland and Labrador, January-May 1963.