

Serial No. 2501
(B.g.14)ICES/ICNAF Salmon Doc.71/5
(also ICNAF Res.Doc.71/25)ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1971THE DANISH DRIFT NET FISHING FOR SALMON IN WEST GREENLAND, 1970.

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(Grønlands Fiskeriundersøgelse)

The material for this paper derives from 13 Danish vessels, which took part in the fishery 1970, from the Ministry of Fisheries and from Mr. Ole Christensen, who participated in the fishery on board the Danish vessel POLAR-LAKS from 29 August to 20 September.

All figures are in fork length to the cm below and in round, fresh weight.

The fishery in 1969 and 1970.

Table 1 states the Danish and Faroese catches at West Greenland in 1969 and 1970. The table does not include figures from the Greenlanders' offshore catches.

Table 1. Offshore catches in 1969 and 1970 (Denmark and the Faroese).

	1969		1970			
	No. of vessels	catches metric tons round, fresh	No. of vessels	catches metric tons round, fresh	No. of salmon	average weight/kg
DENMARK	15	412	13	358	112,586	3.18
FAROES	6	215	7	259	81,550	3.18
TOTAL	21	627	20	617	194,136	3.18

The total catch is nearly the same in 1970 as in 1969, as well as the number of vessels participating in the fishery i.e. a total of 21 (1969) and 20 (1970). The average weight of the salmon is the same from the Danish and Faroese catches in 1970, viz. 3.18 kg.

The average catch per vessel is just the same in 1970 as in 1969.

Table 2. Catch per vessel in 1969 and 1970.

	1969	1970	
DENMARK	27.5	27.5	metric tons
FAROES	35.8	37.0	" "

The difference in size of catch per vessel between Denmark and the Faroes is due to the difference in mean-size of the vessels, the Faroese drifters being bigger than the Danish.

Distribution of the fishery.

The total number of salmon landed by Danish drifters is 112,586. For the catches from 12 vessels, in total 100,094 salmon corresponding to 88.9% of the total Danish catch it is known where and when they were caught, and for 75.2%,

it is furthermore known how many nets or hooks were used. Catches taken by long-lines represent only app. 1.5% of the total Danish catch.

Table 3 and Figure 1 show the distribution of the fishery by division and for half months.

Unlike the two previous years, 1968 and 1969, an important fishery took place in 1970 in Div. 1E, where 27.7% of the salmon caught by the twelve vessels were taken. In 1968 and 1969 the drifters operated mainly in the two or three northernmost divisions. About half of the catches/^{came}from Div. 1B, mainly from Store Hellefiske Bank.

The best month was September, and in this month the fishery was concentrated in Div. 1E, especially in the second half of the month. This fishery took place very close to the shore. In previous years the best season for the fishery was October.

The size composition (in weight-groups) of salmon from landings in Denmark.

Figure 2 shows the size composition in weight from nine vessels' landings or 70.4% of the total number landed by Danish vessels.

Catch per unit effort.

The information covers 73.7% of the total number of salmon caught by Danish vessels, and the information about the catch per unit effort is given without consideration to size of mesh and type of net (see Mr. Ole Christensen's paper).

Table 4 gives the catches per 100 nets and Table 5 gives catches-per-day-fished. Both tables show that the offshore catches in November were much lower than the rest of the rest of the season. The best catch-per-unit-effort was in September in Div. 1E, and in July in Div. 1B.

Table 6 gives information of the catches of salmon caught by long-lines, and the information cover 1.5% of the total number of salmon landed by Danish vessels. The fishery took place mainly in Div. 1B and in October and the first half of November.

The number of salmon caught per 1000 hooks is 27.4, which is much higher than the corresponding figures from R/V ADOLF JENSEN, viz. 7.3 and 4.2 in 1969 and 1970 respectively.

Table 3. The distribution of the Danish offshore fishery in 1970 - 88.9% of the total number of salmon caught by Danish vessels is represented. - The limit between 1A north and 1A south is taken as latitude, 70°N.

Half month	JUL 2nd		AUG 1st		AUG 2nd		SEP 1st		SEP 2nd		OCT 1st		OCT 2nd		NOV 1st		TOTAL	
	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%	No. of salmon	%
1A north							2586	2.58	1860	1.86							4446	4.44
1A south					127	0.13	12008	12.00	2391	2.39	184	0.18	45	0.04			14755	14.74
1B	2034	2.03	4012	4.01	16182	16.17	1658	1.66	1468	1.47	4193	4.19	12840	12.83	3807	3.80	46194	46.16
1C	39	0.04	2455	2.45	2275	2.27	173	0.17	21	0.02	313	0.31	39	0.04	33	0.03	5348	5.33
1D							150	0.15			1018	1.02	440	0.44			1608	1.61
1E							5482	5.48	21608	21.59	652	0.65					27743	27.72
TOTAL	2073	2.07	6467	6.46	18584	18.57	22057	22.04	27348	27.33	6360	6.35	13364	13.35	3840	3.83	100094	+

+) incl. one salmon caught in Div. 1E in 2nd half of NOV.

Table 4. Catch per 100 nets, 73.7% the total number of salmon caught by Danish vessels is represented.

DIV.	Half month	JUL		AUG		SEP		OCT		NOV		TOTAL
		2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		
1A north	a					36.8		29.2				33.2
	b					7021		6361				13382
1A south	a			25.4	43.9	20.6	10.6	10.0				37.6
	b			500	24899	6573	960	450				33382
1B	a	69.4	18.6	37.5	31.1	11.1	22.9	28.5	9.8	0		25.5
	b	2932	21579	37324	4356	7266	11019	28176	25282	100		138034
1C	a	13.0	31.0	31.1	12.7	8.9	13.1	3.1	4.0			25.6
	b	300	7918	3891	1367	237	2475	225	100			16513
1D	a				50.0		34.9	25.5				32.8
	b				300		2913	1724				4937
1E	a				97.3	75.6	17.3	1.0				75.5
	b				5577	25372	2020	100				35069
Total	a	64.1	21.9	36.7	47.4	50.7	22.2	27.9	9.7	0.5		34.7
	b	3232	29497	41715	43520	45809	19387	30575	25382	200		239517

a = Number of salmon per 100 nets.

b = Number of nets.

Table 3. Catch per day, 73.7% of the total number of salmon caught by Danish vessels is represented.

DIV.	Half month	JUL		AUG		SEP		OCT		NOV		TOTAL
		2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		
1A north	a			127.0	242.6	75.3	51.0	22.5				164.7
	b			1	45	18	2	2				27
1A south	a	406.8	91.2	172.6	150.6	57.7	96.9	143.8	41.9	0		119.4
	b	5	44	81	9	14	26	56	59	1		295
1C	a	39.0	129.2	151.5	57.7	21.0	53.8	3.5	4.0			103.3
	b	1	19	8	3	1	6	2	1			41
1D	a			75.0			78.3	110.0				84.6
	b			2			13	4				19
1E	a			339.3	336.7	38.8						300.9
	b			16	57	9						83
Total	a	345.5	102.7	170.2	234.2	223.4	77.0	133.3	41.2	0.5		155.8
	b	6	63	90	88	104	56	64	60	2		533

a = Number of salmon per day.

b = Number of days

Table 6. The long-line fishery in 1970. - Seven vessels tried long-lining and caught 1.5% of the total number of salmon caught by Danish vessels.

DIV.	Half month			TOTAL	
	OCT 1st	OCT 2nd	NOV 1st		
1B	No. of salmon	305	1137	242	1684
	No. of hooks	5040	39595	13385	58020
	salmon per 1000 hooks	60.5	28.7	18.1	29.0
1C	No. of days fished	3	20	7	30
	No. of salmon per day	102.7	56.9	34.8	56.1
	No. of salmon		22	22	44
TOTAL	No. of hooks	1840	3120	7.1	4960
	salmon per 1000 hooks	12.0	7.1	2	8.9
	No. of days fished	2	11.0	11.0	4
TOTAL	No. of salmon	305	1159	264	1728
	No. of hooks	5040	41435	16505	62980
	salmon per 1000 hooks	60.5	28.0	16.0	27.4
TOTAL	No. of days fished	3	22	9	44
	No. of salmon per day	101.7	52.7	29.3	39.3

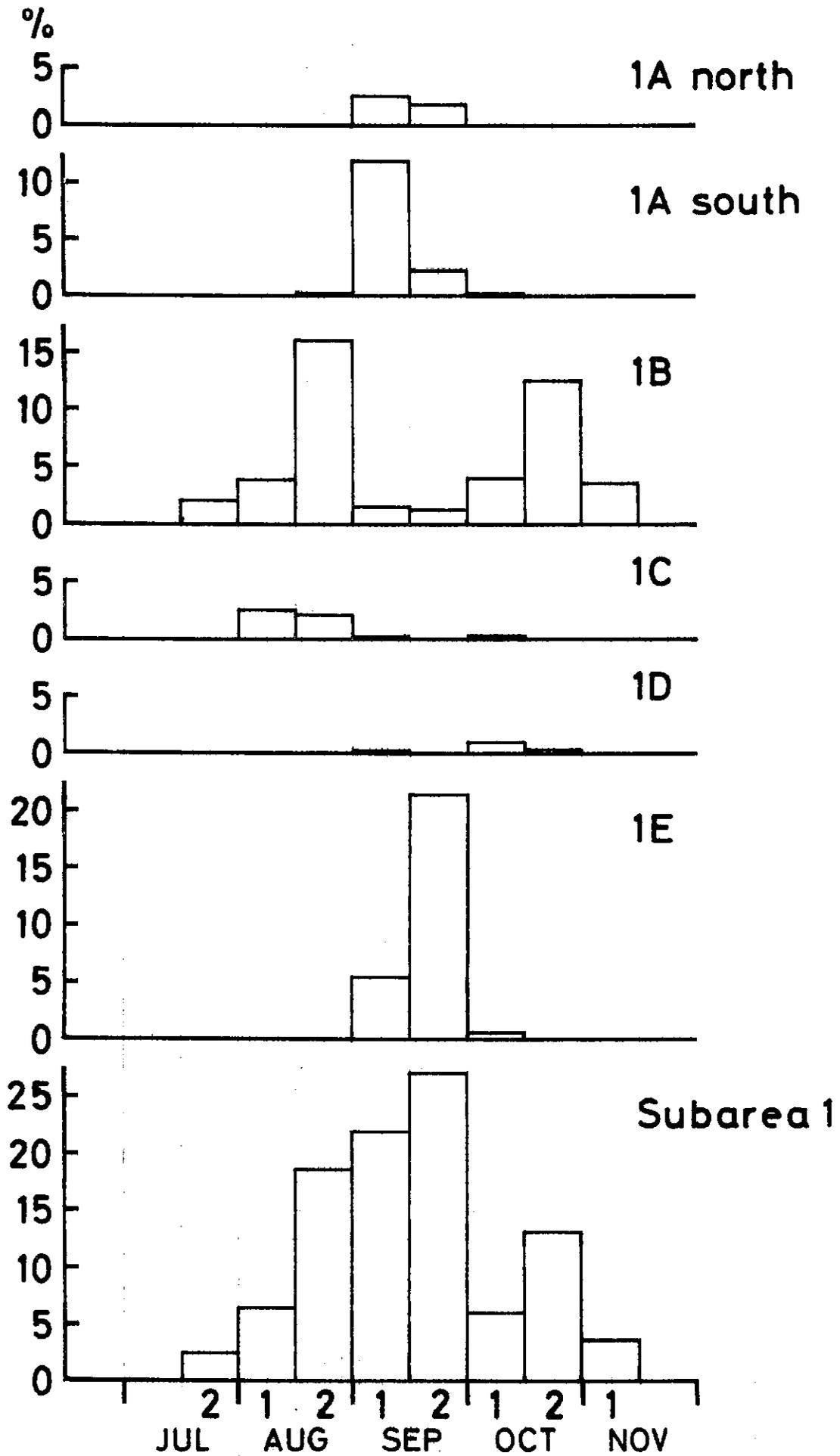


Fig. 1. The distribution of the Danish offshore fishery in 1970 - 80.9% of the total number of salmon caught by Danish vessels is represented. - The limit between 1A north and 1A south is taken as latitude, 70°N.

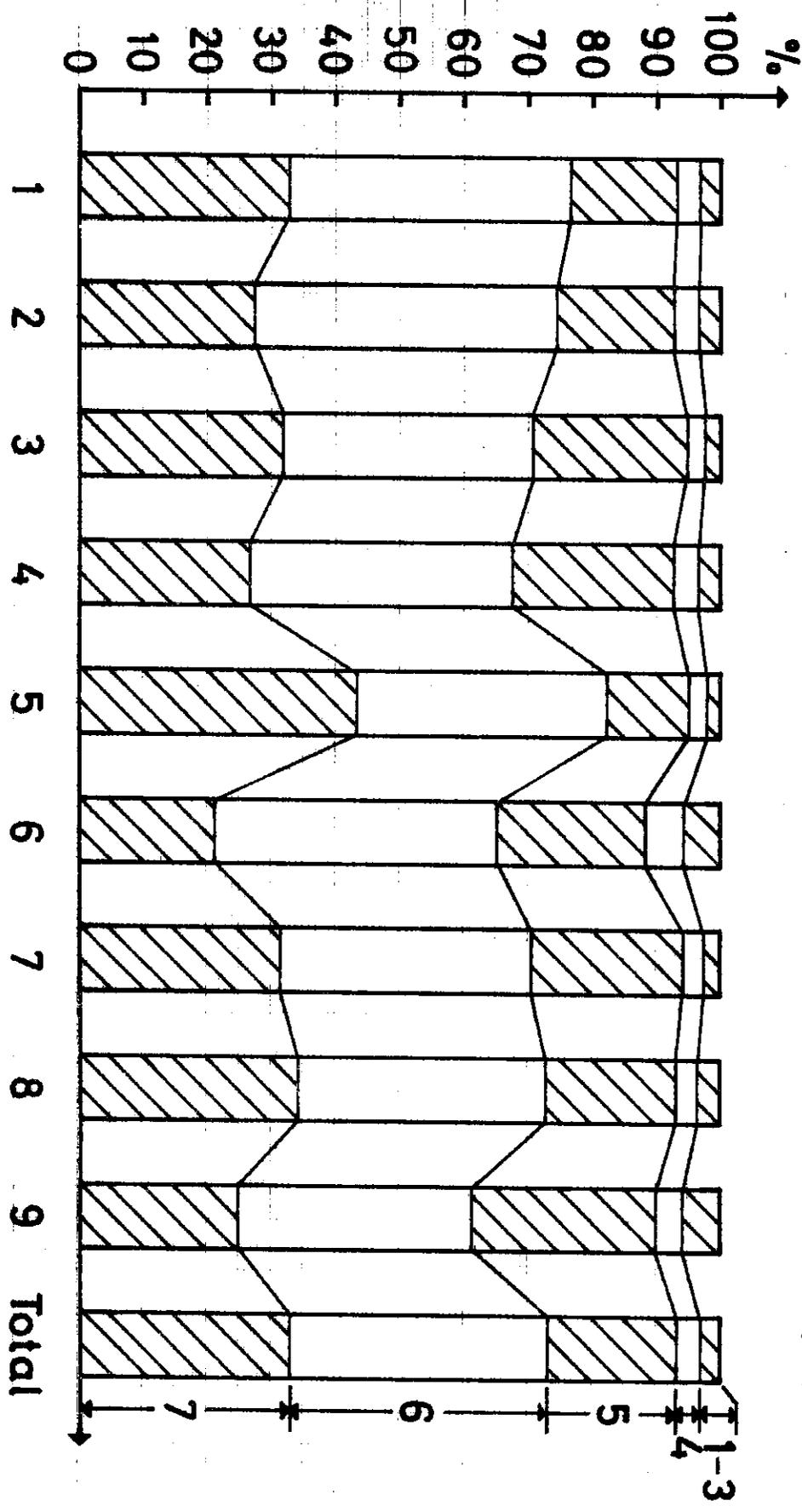


Fig. 2. The size composition of Danish vessels' landings in weight-groups in percent.
 The weight-groups: 1-3 : >5.6 kg. 4 : 4.4-5.5 kg. 5 : 3.3-4.3 kg. 6 : 2.7-3.2 kg.
 7 : <2.7 kg.