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The Faroese offshore Fishery for Salmon at West Greenland 1971By Andrias Reinert
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The offshore fishery for salmon at Greenland started when the Faroese vessel "Bakur" in 1965 caught 36 tons in these waters. The Faroese participation in this fishery has been as shown in table 1.

Table 1: year	no. of vessels	catches metric tons round fresh	average catch pr. vessel
1965	1	36	36
66	1	87	87
67	4	155	39
68	2	134	67
69	6	215	36
70	7	259	37
71	3	255	85

The fishery in 1971:

As it can be seen from the table the total catch in 1971 from 3 vessels is nearly the same as in 1970 when 7 vessels took part in the Greenland fishery, and the average catch pr. vessel is almost as big as in the very good year 1966.

In 1971 the boats started fishing from the 4th to the 11th of August and stopped the 19th and 20th of October.

In 206 fishing days 78.165 salmon were caught in 124.590 nets. On average 1,1 tons or 374 salmon were caught pr. fishing day and 63 salmon pr. 100 nets.

Distribution of the fishery.

The fishery started in Div. 1 C (Table 2 and fig. 1.) and spread to Div. 1 B in the second half of August, and in these two areas 81 % of the catches were taken, while 7 % of the salmon were caught in Div. 1 A off Disko and 12 % in Div. 1 D, from Godthåb to Kobberminebugten.

Catch pr. unit effort:

The catch in number pr. 100 nets is decreasing steadily from August towards the second part of October as it can be seen from table 2, and is also decreasing from Div. 1 D through 1 C and 1 B to 1 A.

According to information from the captains of the boats the bigger size of the salmon in the northern areas however, to some extent compensates for this in weight.

Market categories.

In table 5 the catch from two of the boats is distributed on market categories as well by number as by weight.

Recapture of tagged salmon.

A total of 50 tagged salmon caught in West Greenland in 1971 are reported from the three Faroese vessels.

This corresponds with one tagged fish for every 1563 caught.

The origin of the tagged fish was as follows:

24 from U. S. A.

13 from Canada

10 from Scotland

1 from England

2 from home

50

Table 2. The distribution of the Faroese offshore fishery for salmon in 1971 and catch per unit effort. (The total number of salmon caught is represented)

Div	No. of fishing days	August		September		October		Total	Number of salmon pr 100 nets
		1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		
I A	No of fishing days			6	8		1	15	
	No of nets set			4260	5660		660	10380	
	No of salmon			2433	3006		28	5467	
	% of total catch			3,1	3,8		0,4	7,0	52
I B	No of fishing days		22	24	24	37	10	115	
	No of nets set		13320	14530	23290	6070		69780	
	No of salmon		8406	7969	14047	1413		38473	
	% of total catch		10,8	10,2	17,8	1,8		49,2	55
I C	No of fishing days	22	25		5	7		59	
	No of nets set	12940	14375		2900	3710		35925	
	No of salmon	9028	12083		2489	1325		24925	
	% of total catch	11,5	15,5		3,2	1,7		31,9	73
I D	No of fishing days			12	5			17	
	No of nets set			7515	2790			10305	
	No of salmon			7239	2061			9300	
	% of total catch			9,3	2,6			11,9	90
Total	No of fishing days	22	47	40	42	44	11	206	
	No of nets set	12940	27895	24145	25880	27000	6730	124590	
	No of salmon	9028	20489	16310	15525	15372	1441	78165	
	% of total catch	11,5	26,2	20,9	19,9	19,7	1,8		63
No of salmon pr. 100 nets									
		70	73	68	60	57	21	63	

Table 3: Distribution on market categories of the catch from two of the three Faroese boats taking part in the offshore fishery for salmon in West Greenland in 1971.

Market categories	Number	%	Weight kg (guttet)	%
0-2,5 kg	16.496	31,2	35.658	23,3
2,5-3 kg	15.725	29,7	42.704	27,9
3-4 kg	16.914	32,0	57.038	37,2
4-5 kg	2.649	5,0	10.900	7,1
5-7 kg	981	1,9	5.577	3,6
7-9 kg	146	0,2	1.084	0,7
	52.911		152.961	

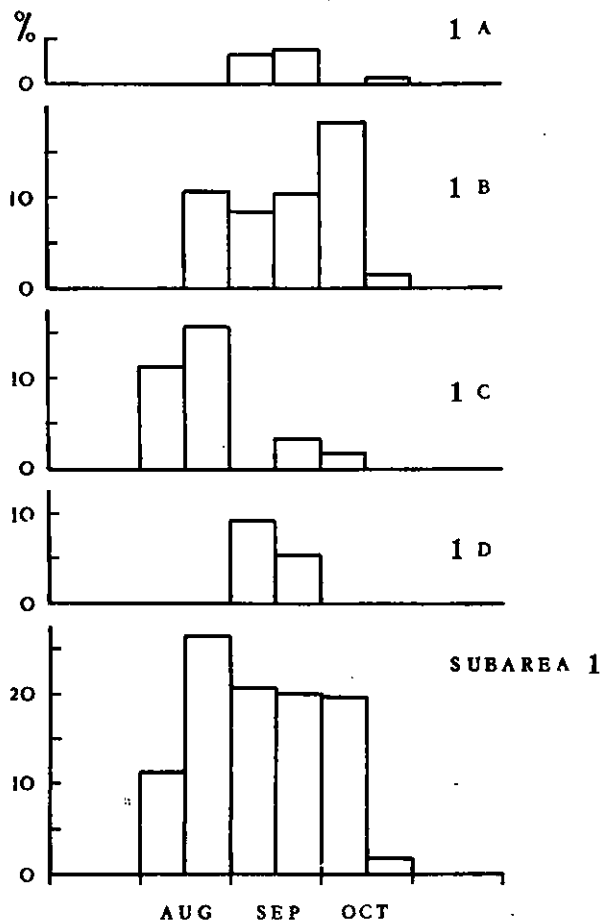


Fig. 1. The distribution of the Faroese offshore fishery in 1970. The total number of salmon caught is represented.