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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1978

Portuguese Research Report, 1977

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Portuguese Research Report, 1977

by

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The present paper summarises the biological studies carried out from cod (<u>Gadus morhua</u>) samples collected in Subarea 3 during 1977. <u>Gadus morhua and Boreogadus saida</u> samples were also collected from Subarea 1 but the results are not included here.

I SUBAREA 1

Special Research Studies

1. Environmental Studies

No research studies were carried out on these subjects.

2. Biological Studies on Cod

Biological studies on cod were carried out on board of a commercial gillnets ship in Divisions 1.B;1.C and 1.D in order to obtain informations about length composition of the catches, maturity and growth.

Gadus morhua and Boreogadus saida samples were collected at the same time but the otbliths are not yet observed. Only a table of the material collected is included.

Samples were obtained during the 2nd and 3rd quarter as follows:

				Gadus mo	rhua	Boreog.	saida
Div.	Months	Depth	Samples	fish measured	fish aged	fish measured	fish aged
1B	Julho	85-114	5	248	118	252	22
10	Junho	70-110	4	204	173	240	149
	Julho	145–180	5	294	235	169	104
1D	Junho	4482	2	73	72	127	50

II SUBAREA 3

Special Research Studies

1. Environmental Studies

No research study was carried out on these subjects.

2. Biological Studies on Cod

Biological studies on cod were carried out on board of a commercial gillnets ship in Divisions 3L, 30 and 3N in order to obtain informations about lengths composition, growth and maturity. Samples were collected in the 3rd quarter as follows:

Div.	Months	Depth	Samples	fish measured	fish aged
3L	JULY	70-77	4	379	314
	AUG	70-73	11	1144	405
30	AUG	60	2	82	82
	SEP	60	1	103	
3N	AUG	60	4	215	209
	SEP	60	6	884	41

2.1. Length and age composition

DIVISION 3L

A total of 1523 individuals were measured and 719 taken for age determination. However not all the otoliths were observed. A subsample of 10 pairs of otoliths for each 3 cm length-group (42, 45 ...) was taken in an alienating way (Random Numbers)

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(Fishes and Yates, 1963 Statistical Tables, sixth edition) so only 202 were observed.

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Lengths and age composition of the cod sampled in this Division are given in Tables 1 and 2, Fig. 1. Lengths ranged from 42 cm to 120 cm with a mean length of 65.8 cm. Ages ranged from III to XXIII (Fig. 1) being the age group VI, IX and VII (respectively 1971, 1968 and 1970 year classes) the best represented in the sampling, by order of importance.

DIVISION 30

A total of 1950 individuals were measured and 82 taken for age determination. Lengths and age composition observed are given in Tables 1 and 2, Fig. 2. Lengths ranged from 54 cm to 144 cm, with a mean length of 84.3 cm.

Age ranged from IV to XX (Fig. 2) with two predominant age groups (VI and IX), the age group VI corresponding the 1971 year class, with highest percentage (25.6 %) followed by the age group IX (1968 year class) with 20.0 %.

DIVISION 3N

A total of 1099 individuals were measured and 250 pairs of otoliths were taken for age determination. Length and age composition are presented in tables 1 and 2, Fig. 3. Lengths ranged from 51 cm to 139 cm with a mean value of 84.8 cm and age ranged from IV to XVIII, with predominance to the age group VI, IX and VII, by order of importance, respectively 1971, 1968 and 1970 year classes.

2.2. Growth

Average length and weigth, by year classes of cod sampled in the three Divisions 3L, 30 and 3N are presented in table 3.

2.3. Stages of maturity

Fig. 4 represents, in percentage, the stages of maturity for males and females identified monthly in each of the Divisions 3L, 30 and 3N. It seems evident that the spawning phase was almost finished in the three Divisions. In all of them the greatest number of gonads was in a developing stage, followed by the resting or recovering one.

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2.4. Age of first maturity

Some of the otoliths observed showed spawning marks, mainly at the 6^{th} and 7^{th} anual marks but for the most part of them it wasn't possible to identify any marks concerning spawning season. Tables 4, 5 and 6 show the results obtained for each one of the three Divisions.

TABLE 1.	Length composition (%/oc)
	of cod sampled in Divi-
	sions 3L, 30 and 3N in
	the 3 rd quarter.

			+
Length	Div.	Div,	Div.
Group	3 L	30	3 N
CE	°/00	°/00	°/00
42	1		
45	3) (
48	9	1	
51	39		4
54	85	27	10
57	106	5	16
60	114	22	23
63	143	49	23
66	156	49	52
69	116	124	86
72	70	65	80
75	46	65	77
78	29	59	59
81	12	43	56
84	17	54	57
87	10	32	55
90	11	65	54
93	9	49	57
96	7	54	46
99	7	43	59
102	3	38	46
105	3	38	36
108	1	27	30
111	2	22	22
114	1	27	18
117	1	27	15
120	1	(-	9
123		5	5
126		5	4
129		}	1 1
132		-	} - }
135		_	\ 1 \
138		- 1	{
141		-	(
144		5	1
		L	·
FISH MEASURI	ED 1523	185	1099
MEAN LENGTH	65.8	84.3	84.8
	0010	0400	010
MEAN	_		
WEIGTH	3093	5917	6435

TABLE 2	. Age composition of cod sam-
	pled in Divisions 3L, 30 and
	3N in the 3 rd quarter.

Age Group	Year Class	Div. 3 L	Div. 3 0	Div. 3 N
		°/00	°/00	°/00
I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX XX XI XVII XVII XVII XVII XVII XVII XXX XX XXI XXI	1977 1976 1975 1974 1973 1972 1971 1970 1969 1968 1967 1966 1965 1964 1963 1962 1961 1960 1959 1958 1957 1956 1955 1954	15 114 89 193 119 94 129 50 54 35 50 30 10 10 5 	49 73 317 110 85 195 24 73 36 - 12 - - 12	32 84 256 168 108 200 56 36 28 16 4 4
AGED FISH		202	82	250
MEAN AGE		7.9	7.8	7.7

TABLE 3. Mean Length $\bar{L}t$ (mm) and mean Weigth \bar{W} (gr) - by age group, in the Divisions 3L, 30 and 3N.

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_																												
	ION 3N		₩(gr)	 				1750	2676	3908	5560	7146	9043	10586	12344	12314	13000	r	t	I	•	15200*						
	DIVIS		$\mathbb{L}^{t}(\mathbf{um})$					579	648	730	821	880	962	1006	1050	1094	1092	ı	1050*	1	1	1090*	I	۲ 	1	1	1	
	CON 30		₩(gr)					1850	2300	3550	4611	6714	8769	10600	10167	10967	I	12800*	1	15000#	•	1	ı	17000	I	1	1	
	DIVISI		Lt (mn)		_			573	627	Ţ42	782	869	965	1025	1038	1037	1	1170	1	1180	1	I	I	1260	I	1	t	
•	N 3L		₩(gr)			_	1100	1187	1906	2756	4338	5037	5781	8400	8464	9214	9530	9750	12033	15900	11000#	1	1	1	t	1	13000	-
	DIVISIO		Ľt(mm)				473	505	568	651	766	818	854	961	978	958	1004	1030	1055	1150	1100#	ı	1	T	I	t	1110	
	Year	Cleas		1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1939	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	Ì
	Age	Group			I	II	III	N.	۷	IV	IIV	111V	XI	X	XI	IIX	XIII	XIV	XX	XVI	IIVX	IIIVX	XIX	XX	IXX	XXII	IIIXX	

TABLE 4. Spawning marks, by age group, for males and females in Division 3L

Age Group	Spi	guine	al rear	÷				ļ	Spawn	ing n	arks	8‡			
	2	IV	VII	IIIV	X	9	F	۸	ΙΛ	ΛII	III V	XI	9	F	•
III						-	1						c)	ରା	
Ν						15	15						80	80	
>						13	13						ŝ	5	
IV						20	20						19	61	
IIV		٦	C1			10	13			1			10	11	
111V		1				14	15						S	4	
Ħ			¢)	г	1	-	II	l	ľ	C)		1	10	15	
X		ę	ବା			C1	-						3	e	
XI			e			m	9	1		ľ			01	ю	-
XII				63		-	e			•1			c 1	4	
XIII		ľ	61	I	1	୍ୟ	7						ę	ຄ	
XIV			I			থ	e		I				C)	က	
X		I	1				01							_	•
IVX						-	I						٦	1	
IIVX				I			-								· ·
XVIII															
XIX															
X													_		
XX															
IIXX															-
IIIXX							1			I					
		t	13	or I	~	92	119	~	сл	9		N	, 7 0	83	· • · - ·
6 Unkra	E E E	inclue	ling i	mature	fisl						1				

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* Value hased on one fish only

Age Group		Spa	wning	merks	11				Spaw	ning m	arka	<u></u>]
	v	VI	VII	VIII	IX	9	т	v	vı	VII	VIII	IX	0	T	
IV						3	з	ł					1	1	
v						5	5	1					1	1	1
VI						17	17	ł					9	9	L
VII						6	6	1					3	3	L
VIII						5	5						2	2	ł
IX			1			8	9			1			6	17	ł
x	l					1	1						1	1	
XI						4	4	}					2	2	
XII			1				1						2	2	l
XIII															
XIV			1				1								L
xv						(1								ł
XVI						1	1							l :	ł
XVII							ļ							{	
XVIII														:	ļ
XIX						- {									
XX						[1	1	
			3			50	53			1			28	29	1

TABLE 5. Spawning marks, age group, for males and females, in Division 30

0 Unknown including imature fish

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Age Group		Spav	ming	œark <i>s</i>	<u>††</u>				Spaw	aing s	iarks	<u> </u>]
	v	vr	VII	VIII	IX	.0	Ţ	v	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Ð	Т	ł
IV						6	6	,					3	3	
v						14	14	l					6	6	Ì.
VI						33	33	İ					31	31	
VII						27	27						15	15	
VIII	1	1				10	12	}		2			10	12	ļ
IX		5	2	1		16	24		4	1	1		23	29	ľ
x			2	2		5	9		1	2			2	5	
XI	l		l	3		1	5			1	1		3	5	
XII		1	1				2					3	2	5	
XIII				2			2				1	1		2	
XIV						·]]								
xv						1] 1]	
XVI	l						l .]	
XVII							[]								
XVIII	:					1	1								
	1	7	6	8	-	114	136		5	6	3	4	95	113	

TABLE 6. Spawning marks, by age group, for males and females, in Division 3N

9 Unknown including imature fish



Fig.1 Cod length frequencies and age composition, Div.3L, 1977



Div.3N - Aug., Sep., 1977



Fig.3 Cod length frequencies and age composition, Div.3N,1977

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Fig.4 Stages of maturity in the 3 Divisions Sampled