International Council for the
Exploration of the Sea

ICES C.M. 1992/G:12
Demersal Fish Committee
Ref.: Pelagic Fish Cttee

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ICES 1991 NORTH SEA STOMACH SAMPLING PROJECT

IJmuiden, 23-28 April 1992

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## 1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

During the 79th Statutory Meeting at La Rochelle, ICES adopted the following resolution (C.Res. 1991/2:13):

The Planning Group on the Stomach Sampling Project in 1991 will meet in IJmuiden (Netherlands), from 23-28 April, 1992 to:
a) prepare a progress report on the 1991 Stomach Sampling Project;
b) resolve logistical problems that may have arisen during the sampling, analysis and computerisation of the data;
c) compile the auxiliary information on age/length keys, survey data etc. needed for preparing the stomach data for the MSVPA model.

## 2. PARTICIPATION

The meeting was held in IJmuiden from 23-28 April, 1992. It was attended by:

| Peter Bromley | UK (England) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Niels Daan | Netherlands |
| Ton de Gee | Netherlands |
| Tomas Gröhsler | Germany |
| Henk Heessen | Netherlands |
| John Hislop (Chairman) | UK (Scotland) |
| Arjen Kikkert | Netherlands |
| Jan-René Larsen | Denmark |
| Sandy Robb | UK (Scotland) |
| Dankert Skagen | Norway |
| Axel Temming | Germany |

## Acknowledgements

The Group wishes to thank their hosts at the Netherlands Institute for Fisheries Research for ensuring that the meeting ran smoothly and for providing excellent technical and secretarial support. Special thanks are also due to those staff at the various national institutes who have spend many hours analysing stomachs and processing large amounts of data.

## 3. HEALTH WARNING

The Group wishes to stress that this Progress Report is intended to give a preliminary impression of the overall scale of the 1991 Stomach Sampling Project and the results that have been achieved to date. It should be noted that many of the numbers given in this report are provisional and there are discrepancies between several of the Tables and Figures relating to the numbers of fish sampled.

## 4. SAMPLING INTENSITY

### 4.1 Total sampling intensity

The numbers of stomachs of each species examined at sea in each quarter of 1991 are given in Table 4.1. It should be noted that these figures include stomachs which were classified as 'regurgitated' and not retained for analysis. Because many of the fish in the smaller size classes were preserved whole, definitive information on the numbers of stomachs kept for analysis will not be available until the completion of the project. In addition to these North Sea samples, stomachs were collected from the Skagerrak/Kattegat by Sweden in the first, second and third quarters.
4.2 Primary predators (cod, haddock, whiting, saithe, mackerel)

During the planning phase, it was agreed that the sampling levels for cod, whiting, saithe and mackerel should be maintained at, or above, those achieved in 1981 and that haddock sampling could be reduced (Anon., 1991). The 1981 figures are given, for comparison, in Table 4.1. Slightly fewer cod were examined in 1991, while there were moderate increases in the numbers of haddock, mackerel and saithe. In the case of whiting, the number of stomachs examined more than doubled.

Sampling effort in the four quarters of 1991 was highly satisfactory, and the project greatly benefitted from the ICES Quarterly International Bottom Trawl Survey, which commenced in that year (Anon., 1992a). There was a certain amount of 'patchiness' in the distribution of the samples (Figures 4.1-4.5) but this reflects the distribution of the fish.
Preliminary data on the size distributions of the primary predators sampled in 1991 are given in Table 4.2, with the 1981 data for comparison. In general, the size range of fish sampled was greater in 1991. This was mainly due to the fact that more importance was attached to sampling the smaller size classes ( $<10 \mathrm{~cm}$ ). Large fish were apparently much scarcer in the North Sea in 1991 and this is reflected in the stomach samples. In particular, far fewer large ( $>70 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) cod and saithe were sampled than in 1981.

### 4.3 Secondary predators

Additional predators were included in the project and at the planning stage it was decided that priority should be given to three (grey gurnards, rays and scad). Table 4.1 and Figures 4.64.13 show that these species/species groups were adequately sampled. Many of the other predator species were only sampled on an occasional basis (Table 4.1) but more than 2500 long rough dabs were examined.

### 4.4 Pelagic 0 -group gadoids

Pelagic 0-group gadoids were sampled in June in the northern North Sea (FRV 'Clupea', Scotland) and the southeastern North Sea (FRV 'Tridens', Netherlands), using the International Young Gadoid Pelagic Trawl (IYGPT; Figure 4.14). Intensive 24 h sampling at three depths ( $5 \mathrm{~m}, 30 \mathrm{~m}$ and bottom) was undertaken southeast of the Shetland Islands. Additional samples were also taken in the Moray Firth and west of the Orkney Islands. The southeastern area was sampled twice, at the beginning and end of June. Some additional samples of pelagic 0-group gadoids were collected in the north in July 1991 by FRV 'Johan Hjort' (Norway). The cod, haddock, whiting, saithe and Norway pout were preserved for stomach analysis at Lowestoft. Approximately 2800 were from the northern North Sea and 900 were from the southeastern region.

## 5. PROGRESS IN EXCHANGE OF MATERIAL, SAMPLE ANALYSIS AND DATA PROCESSING

Considering the large numbers of nations and vessels that participated in the project, the exchange of material proceeded remarkably smoothly. Some problems arose with the redistribution of material collected by, and intended for, Denmark but these have been resolved and it is anticipated that by the end of May almost all samples should have reached their final destinations. There are still some scad residing in Norway, some mackerel samples in Denmark and some samples of pelagic 0-group gadoids collected by Norway, whose present whereabouts are unknown.

### 5.1. Cod

During 1991 the participating countries managed to sample over 10000 cod stomachs. The start of the analysis of the collected material was slow because of lack of experience, but by now over 9000 cod stomachs have been analysed. No problems have been encountered with either frozen samples or samples preserved in formalin. All data have been put into the computer.
Especially in the case of larger cod it was often possible to examine stomachs of individual fish. These samples showed that there was a great variety in both fullness and contents of individual stomachs. The first results indicate that smaller cod ( $60-80 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) appeared to have more food in their stomachs (both fish and crustaceans) than the larger cod. The main fish prey items were dab, long rough dab, herring, sprat, whiting and Norway pout. Also a large number of 0 -group gadoids has been observed.
The remaining cod stomachs have recently been exchanged and it is expected that these will have been analysed by the end of May.

### 5.2 Haddock

Of the approximately 20000 stomachs collected during 1991, about 1500 have been analysed since October 1991, when Tomas Gröhsler joined the project (Table 5.1), consisting of material sampled by the Netherlands in the first three quarters. Whenever possible, stomachs
were treated individually and all prey items were identified to the species level. No data have yet been computerised.
The preliminary impression from the material that has been analysed to date is that the food consists mainly of invertebrates (polychaetes and crustaceans).The commercially important prey items made up only a small part of the food spectrum.

### 5.3 Whiting

Table 5.1 gives the total number of whiting stomachs examined at sea and the numbers which have been analysed to date. Some 13000 stomachs, representing nearly all of quarter 1 and most of quarter 2, have been processed, all as pooled samples. This means that around 28000 stomachs have still to be analysed. It is hoped that these can be completed by March 1993. The stomach samples collected by Denmark have still to reach Aberdeen but these should be delivered in the near future. To date, the stomach content data have not been entered on the computer but analysis should proceed quickly once the data sets for quarters 1 and 2 are completed.

### 5.4 Mackerel.

A total of 6990 stomachs has been sampled. By mid April 1991, 1605 stomachs had been examined. The stomachs have been examined individually, and all prey items have been classified to the lowest possible taxonomic level, and to length class whenever possible. So far, no data have been computerized.
Most of the samples examined to date have been frozen. For formalin-fixed material, examination on an individual basis presents more problems, because it is difficult to assign the loose material often found on the bottom of the jar to the different stomachs in the sample.

### 5.5 Saithe

The number of stomachs that has been sampled and analysed is shown in table 5.1. All material has been exchanged. The analysis and processing is expected to be completed at the beginning of 1993.
The preliminary results suggest that, contrary to the observations in 1981, whiting and haddock were observed in relatively small quantities. In 1991, the principal fish prey were Norway pout and herring. The stomachs also contained large amounts of Mysids.

### 5.6 Rays

The number of stomachs that has been sampled and analysed is shown in table 5.1. None of the data have yet been computerised.
The analysis of the ray stomachs is difficult for two reasons:

1) Rays seem to feed at night. Most of the samples were collected during day time and the stomach contents were usually well digested.
2) The stomach contents were usually without any structure, suggesting that rays chew their prey.
As a consequence, a large fraction of the food is impossible to identify, and the average weight of the stomach contents may be biased.
Sandeels and Norway pout were the main fish prey items. The most abundant invertebrates found were crustaceans (mainly Crangon) and polychaetes.

### 5.7 Other by-catch species

Grey gurnard has been particularly well sampled in all quarters and a reliable evaluation of food consumption over the year should be possible. Sampling intensity has also been high for scad and long rough dab. For other species the numbers are smaller, but also greater sandeels, hake, red gurnards, tub gurnards and spurdogs have been well represented in the samples taken during some of the quarters.
Presently, about 9000 stomachs have been analysed by the Netherlands Institute for Fisheries Research, the majority of which is made up by grey gurnard stomachs collected in the first two quarters of 1991. The resulting information has been entered in the available database and a start has been made with sorting and combining the results by computer.
Considering the sampling target of 2500 stomachs per quarter, more than twice as many stomachs of by-catch species have been collected. Because of this sampling intensity, it is envisaged that it will not be possible to finish the analysis and processing of all samples before
early 1993. It will therefore be necessary to make an appropriate selection of the material to be worked up as a first priority.
It is not possible at this stage to provide specific results of stomach analysis of any of the bycatch species.

### 5.8 Pelagic 0-group Gadoids

The stomachs of 2646 pelagic 0 -group gadoids have been analysed (Table 5.1) and the results entered in a data base.

### 5.9 Samples from Skagerrak/Kattegat

It is hoped that all the stomachs collected from the Skagerrak and Kattegat will be analysed by the end of June. None of the data have yet been computerised.

## 6. COMPUTERISATION OF DATA

Apart from the cod and by-catch data analysed by the Netherlands and the pelagic 0 -group gadoid stomachs analysed by England, there has been little progress so far in computerisation of the data. This will, however, become a problem in the near future and therefore the possibilities for the various institutes involved as well as the plans of the various species coordinators to resolve the exchange problems were discussed. The format for exchanging stomach content data, that was agreed in 1991 by the Planning Group (Anon., 1991), consists of a flat ASCII file with fixed record size, where each line represents an observation of a separate prey category in an individual stomach sample or an individual stomach. Each coordinator is therefore committed to provide the data accordingly. During a recent meeting in St John's of the Study Group on the Analysis of Feeding Data, the exchange of stomach content data on a North Atlantic-wide scale has been addressed for statistical evaluation of basic sampling procedures. At this meeting, the agreed format for the North Sea sampling programme was used as a starting point, but several revisions were introduced to allow for more flexibility in presentation of the available data from the various sources (Anon., 1992b). Apart from one minor point, this new format (cf table 6.1) fits the requirements for the North Sea programme entirely and therefore it was agreed to accept this format for future exchange. The point that has to be resolved is that the new format allows for great flexibility in the reported size classes, whereas in the North Sea context the size classes have been strictly defined. This means that in preparing exchange tapes, the species coordinators must ensure that all the information follows strictly this definition because otherwise confusion may be created at subsequent steps in the analysis.
The situation within the various institutes involved in respect of computerisation can be summarised as follows:
-The Netherlands: The software package originally developed in IJmuiden for a VAX and used to analyse the 1981, 1985, 1986, and 1987 data has been modified to cope with the changes that have been introduced in the 1991 programme. The input, checking, exchange format and primary analysis parts are finalised, but more work has to be done on the multispecies part, where prey size classes have to be converted into age classes. Recently, a standard Pascal version has been produced for a SUN workstation under UNIX. Although it has not yet been completely tested, trial runs indicate that it works satisfactorily. It is intended to complete this version of the program within the next 6 months, but it is directly available for input of new data.
The VAX version has been modified to produce the new format (table 6.1) and also data that are made available in that format can be read in and checked or extended to incorporate additional information.
The survey data base in IJmuiden for the 4 quarters in 1991 is virtually complete and trawl list information, $n$-per-hour weighting factors, and age length keys can soon be made available to all participants.

- Scotland: A copy of the software package developed in IJmuiden is available on the VAX in Aberdeen and therefore there should not be any major problems in processing the whiting data. One problem, however, that may arise is that the array sizes become a limiting factor due to the unexpectedly large numbers of whiting stomachs sampled. These arrays
cannot be readily increased because of internal VAX limitations and transfer to a SUN workstation in IJmuiden may be required.
- Denmark: The Danish institute operates a Hewlett Packard system under UNIX and therefore is interested in the source code of the UNIX version. In addition, they would like to modify the program for application on PC's under MS-DOS.
- Norway: There is another stomach sampling programme carried out in Norway and therefore it may be possible to use software developed for the Barents Sea to input data for the North Sea and create exchange files to be handled further by the IJmuiden laboratory. However, there are also SUN workstations available in the Bergen institute and it was agreed that IJmuiden would provide a copy of the UNIX version, which would allow complete compatibility. Norway would also be interested in a PC version of the input part.
- Germany: The German institute has only access to PC's and would therefore be interested in a PC-version if the Danish institute is able to modify the program. However, it should always be possible to provide data in exchange format by means of a dBase program, which could then be further be processed in close cooperation with the Netherlands institute.
- England: The Lowestoft institute has entered all stomach content data for the pelagic 0 -group gadoids in a SAS data base, from which it is easy to create data in exchange format. Also, data in exchange format may be read in.

From this overview, it appears that the exchange of data is not expected to create major problems. In some cases, it may be necessary for the IJmuiden laboratory to act as an intermediate in combining stomach content data with the appropriate survey information or to do some of the final analyses. Since all data will be made available in exchange format, it will be relatively easy in the end to provide an integrated data base for further statistical evaluation.

## 7. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE INTERPRETATION OF THE MANUAL

The Stomach Sampling Manual (Anon., 1991) used for the 1991 Stomach Sampling Project was based on the original 1981 Manual, (Anon., 1981) with extensive revisions arising partly from the experience gained in the intervening years and partly from new project aims. The Group discussed their practical experiences with the Manual and identified a number of problems.

### 7.1 Predator size classes

On a few occasions stomachs have by mistake been sampled using broader predator size classes than those defined in the Manual: e.g. $40-59 \mathrm{~cm}$ instead of $40-49$ and $50-59 \mathrm{~cm}$. It was agreed that in some cases it might be possible to assign such stomachs to the correct size class by referring to the length composition of the trawl catch. However, if the samples were from size classes that had already been adequately sampled, they need not be analysed. It was agreed that it would be sensible to adopt the convention agreed during the recent meeting of the Study Group on the Analysis of Feeding Data (Anon., 1992b), whereby both the minimum and maximum size of the size class used should be recorded.

### 7.2 Sampling levels

The Group noted that the choice of sampling levels in 1991 was not based on statistical considerations, but on a somewhat arbitrary decision to maintain sampling at least at the level attained in 1981. The optimum sampling level will, presumably, depend on factors such as the spatial differences in prey composition and is likely to be different for different size classes within a species and also between species. Because some of the cod, haddock and mackerel material collected in 1991 are being analysed on an individual stomach basis, it should soon be possible to address this problem more rationally.

### 7.3 Regurgitated, empty and everted stomachs

This familiar problem was discussed at some length and it became clear that, although the subject had been covered rather extensively in the Manual, there was still some confusion over the identification of these stomachs and the way in which they should be treated and documented.
Most countries have tried to apply Robb's gall-bladder states (Anon., 1991) to discriminate between empty and regurgitated stomachs. Although specifically developed for use in whiting,
the same system may be applicable to other gadoid species, but certainly not to Elasmobranchs. This was not stated clearly in the Manual.
It furthermore appeared that problems have arisen with the interpretation of the procedure on how to handle everted and empty stomachs. During Norwegian and Danish cruises, some everted stomachs may have been recorded as regurgitated, but is not possible as yet to evaluate the extent of this misunderstanding. More information is required.
Both the sampling procedures applied on board different research vessels and the subjective assessments of individual scientists may have influenced the numbers of stomachs recorded as regurgitated. This is illustrated in Figure 7.1, which shows the percentages of grey gurnard stomachs classified as regurgitated during a 'complementary' survey by two research vessels (Tridens and Cirolana) during the second quarter of 1991. There is a need to evaluate what effect such differences have on estimates of mean stomach contents weights and fractions empty.

### 7.4 Food eaten in the trawl

In the course of discussion it was established that procedures adopted to cope with the problem of food eaten in the trawl had been broadly similar between countries. On Dutch vessels, 'lively' prey were removed from the stomachs, as were very fresh prey when they mirrored the catch composition to any large extent. In the case of other countries, prey in the mouth or throat were always rejected, but there may have been differences in the treatment of fresh prey in the stomachs. The stomach analysts should be aware of these differences.
According to the Manual, fresh ('pristine') prey should be recorded as digestion stage 0 . However, different criteria have to be applied for pristine conditions in frozen and in material preserved in formalin. In this respect the analysis would gain from further standardization of the method of preservation.

### 7.5 Sample documentation

During the stomach sampling projects a lot of time is spent in a proper administration of the samples collected: labels in the jar, on top of the jar and also the Sample Check Lists have to be filled in. It was agreed that in order to save time and avoid unnecessary confusion the number of categories mentioned on the Sample Check List could be reduced. For each predator size class the only strictly necessary columns would be number of stomachs regurgitated, number of stomachs in the jar and total number investigated.
Because of the need to link stomach sampling information with survey data, it is extremely important to use corresponding station numbers.

### 7.6 Treatment of frozen samples

The best method to thaw stomach samples appears to be with a microwave, which makes it unnecessary to thaw great amounts of stomachs at the same time.

### 7.7 NODC ten-digit coding system

The manual includes a list of 10 -digit codes for recording prey species. In the case of fish, all the codes have been officially recognised by the NODC. However, many of the codes for invertebrates are 'unofficial' and were devised on an ad hoc basis during the 1981 and subsequent North Sea sampling projects. In order to avoid chaos when trying to merge data bases at a later stage, the species coordinators, when finding a prey species not listed in the Manual, should consult the current NODC catalogue. If the species is listed, then the official code should be used. If the species is not listed, it should be reported to the Netherlands Institute, which will issue an 'unofficial' code that can be used by all participants in the project.

### 7.8 Conclusions

It was agreed that the Manual had been a useful document, although there are still several points that some people find ambiguous and confusing. A new version will have to be prepared before any future large-scale stomach sampling exercise is undertaken, but the Group felt that it would be unnecessary to make a new edition in the immediate future.

## 8. TRAWL SURVEY DATA BASE

The data for most of the bottom trawl surveys carried out in 1991 as part of the International Bottom Trawl Survey were sent as exchange files to IJmuiden and are available in the IJmuiden data base (Table 8.1). Some data were still preliminary and not all the otoliths collected in 1991 had as yet been read.

## 9. PREY AGE LENGTH KEYS

Prey age length keys (ALK's) are necessary to convert numbers in the stomachs by length categories to numbers by age, which is what is needed as input to the Multispecies Virtual Population Analysis (MSVPA). To some extent, such ALK's can be obtained from the surveys in which the stomachs were collected. This raises several problems, however.
Due to the mesh size, the smallest prey fish are poorly sampled. This not only reduces the availability of the smaller fish, but may also bias the length at age distribution. In particular, this is a problem for sandeel. In addition, the pelagic prey species will be poorly sampled, since most of the sampling was done during bottom trawl surveys.
Tables 9 a -e show the number of otoliths for each of the main prey species by length class and quarter which are available at present. Some survey data are still not included in the data base. The general impression is that for Norway pout and sprat, the coverage is fairly satisfactory. Sandeel is very poorly covered, except for the 3rd quarter in area 1. For the herring, the coverage seems to be quite good.
For the sandeels in particular, an additional problem is that they grow very rapidly during the 2nd quarter. In this situation, it would be desirable to apply separate ALK's for each month or even on a finer time scale (Anon., 1992c) For the areas where the commercial fishery takes place, it may be possible to make use of the ALK's used by the Industrial WG.
As noted above, the coverage is fairly satisfactory for most species. Nevertheless, there are some gaps and the bottom trawl survey ALK's need to be supplemented with data from other sources, including commercial fisheries and other surveys. It is also recommended that the stomach analysts take full advantage of every opportunity to collect otoliths from wellpreserved prey in stomach samples. This is particularly important for sandeels.

## 10. INCORPORATING 0-GROUP FEEDING DATA IN MSVPA

The pelagic 0 -group sampling was intended to estimate the amount of internal consumption amongst gadoids and investigate area, diel and depth effects. The findings should indicate the magnitude of internal consumption and whether there is a case to incorporate pelagic 0-groups in MSVPA. During the discussion it was pointed out that to be of use in MSVPA, consumption should be estimated for the 0 -groups as a whole, including both pelagic and demersal phases. It was also felt that consumption should be estimated over a shorter time scale than by quarter-year, due to the rapid changes in growth and feeding in spring and summer. Whilst it would be difficult to quantify population size from the 1991 sampling programme over quarters $2-3$, it would be possible to compare the diets and relative consumption of the demersal 0 -groups collected by the demersal trawling gears and the pelagic members of the population taken by the IYGPT. Peter Bromley agreed to collate the data and cooperate with other workers interested in a more detailed study of feeding during the change from the pelagic to demersal pattern of behaviour in June-August. Indeed, there was some doubt as to the validity of distinguishing between pelagic and demersal feeding in the shallow areas of the southern North Sea, and there were doubts over the ability to quantify feeding in such areas, particularly close inshore where substantial numbers of 0 -groups congregate.
It was felt that the sampling of the 0 -groups in the fourth quarter, when most are demersal, should be reasonably quantitative and the 1991 feeding data could be used in MSVPA.

## 11. TREATMENT OF OTHER PREDATORS

An unexpectedly large number of predators was sampled in 1991 (Table 4.1). The Group agreed that priority should be given to rays, grey gurnards and scad. However, some truly demersal predators, such as anglerfish, might yield useful information on the time at which young gadoids start to live on the sea bed.

## 12. TIMETABLES

A considerable amount of work remains to be done before the data can be processed into a form suitable for MSVPA. The Group agreed that the following timetable should be strictly adhered to:

1 All prey ALK's must be submitted to the IJmuiden laboratory by September 1992;
2. Exchange files with stomach content data must be sent to the IJmuiden laboratory by 1 May, 1993;
3. Final processing to be completed by early August, 1993, in time for submission of the data to the Multispecies Assessment Working Group;
4. Species coordinators should submit individual reports to the 1993 Council Meeting.

During the meeting, it seemed that all species coordinators are currently identifying prey items in as much detail as possible. However, in order to meet these deadlines, it may become necessary to identify stomach contents in a rather less detailed manner. The Group prepared a set of guide-lines on the minimum level of identification that should be aimed for (Table 12.1). In defining these criteria, the Group recognised that, although the Multispecies Assessment Working Group is their main customer, the results of the Stomach Sampling Project are of considerable interest to other workers, such as the Study Group on the Ecosystem Effects of Fishing, and these groups are particularly interested in some of the other, non-commercial, species eaten by the predators. In this context, grouping prey into broad taxonomic categories such as 'molluscs' and 'crustaceans' is not very helpful. What is needed is an indication as to whether the prey are pelagic or demersal, epibenthic or part of the infauna etc. To achieve this aim, it will usually be necessary to identify prey at least to the level of Order or even Family. Fish and commercially important crustaceans as well as a selected group of other organisms (see Table 12.1) must always be identified to species level.

## 13. RECOMMENDATION

The Group recommends that the species coordinators of the 1991 Stomach Sampling Project meet again in IJmuiden for 6 days from 2-7 September 1993 to prepare the input data for MSVPA.

## 14. REFERENCES

Anonymous 1981 - Draft Manual for the Stomach Sampling Project, January 1981. Internal Report Netherlands Institute for Fishery Investigations.
Anonymous 1991 - Manual for the ICES North Sea Stomach Sampling Project in 1991. ICES C.M. 1991/G:3.
Anonymous 1992a - Report of the International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group, Copenhagen, 13-17 January 1992. ICES C.M. 1992/H:3.
Anonymous 1992b - Report of the Study Group on the Analysis of Feeding Data. ICES C.M. 1992/G:4.

Anonymous 1992c - Report of the Industrial Fisheries Working Group. ICES C.M. 1992/Assess:9.

Figure 4.1-5 Preliminary estimates of the total number of stomachs of primary species examined at sea by quarter.
4.1 Cod
4.2 Haddock
4.3 Whiting
4.4 Mackerel
4.5 Saithe

Fig. 4.1

coo ouabter 3


coo ouafter 4



HADOOCK QUARTER 3


haDOOCK OUARTER a


whiting quarter 3




Fig. 4.4


hackerel oungter a


Fig. 4.5




Figure 4.6-13 Preliminary estimates of the total number of stomachs of secondary species examined at sea by year.
4.6 Pollack, ling, hake and torsk
4.7 Bib, blue whiting, scad and grey gurnard
4.8 Red gurnard, tub gurnard, red mullet and Norway haddock
4.9 R. radiata, R. naevus, R. clavata and R. montagui
4.10 R. fullonica, R. batis, spurdog and lesser spotted dogfish
4.11 Tope, starry smooth hound, long rough dab and turbot
4.12 Brill, megrim, halibut and anglerfish
4.13 Anglerfish unidentified, catfish, greater sandeel and Raitt's sandeel

Fig. 4.6



Fig. 4.7


Fig. 4.8

bed mullet ouabters :-d


Thi suanabid duanteds 1-4


NORWAY HADOOCK OUARTERS :-A


Fig. 4.9


f.montagui quarters :-4


Fig. 4.10




Fig. 4.11


baill quarters $1-4$

halibut ouateas :-4


MEGGIM Qunategs i-d


Fig. 4.13

beater sanoeel quartegs $1-4$


gaitis sandeel juarters $1-4$


Figure 4.14 Sampling areas for pelagic 0-group gadoids in June 1991.


Figure 7.1 Example of differences in reported regurgitation rates by different countries.
a Statistical squares fished by Cirolana (hatched horizontally) and Tridens (hatched vertically) during the second quarter of 1991.
b Percentage of grey gurnard stomachs classified as regurgitated by statistical square during the second quarter of 1991


Table 4.1 Number of stomachs examined at sea for each species and quarter for 1981 and 1991.

| Species | Quarter 1 |  | Quarter 2 |  | Quarter 3 |  | Quarter 4 |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 |
| Cod | 4146 | 2338 | 2430 | 3227 | 2329 | 2411 | 2513 | 2151 |  |  |
| Haddock | 2810 | 2908 | 3795 | 5183 | 5825 | 7819 | 4966 | 3745 | 17396 | 10127 |
| Whiting | 7832 | 6990 | 4211 | 11900 | 3727 | 13076 | 3447 | 3745 | 17396 | 19655 |
| Mackerel | 248 | 315 | 1277 | 2772 | 2737 | + 3177 | 3447 683 | 9717 686 | 19217 | 41683 |
| Saithe | 547 | 1115 | 185 | 1241 | 899 | 708 | 683 559 | 686 | 4945 | 6950 |
| Pollack |  | 0 |  | 58 |  |  |  | 812 | 2190 | 3876 |
| Ling |  | 52 |  | 71 |  | 15 33 |  | 8 48 8 |  | 81 204 |
| Hake |  | 54 |  | 176 |  | 226 |  | 93 |  | 204 549 |
| Torsk |  | 3 |  | 14 |  | 5 |  | 5 |  | 549 27 |
| Bib |  | 56 |  | 17 |  | 0 |  |  |  | 27 |
| Blue whiting |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 7 |  | 29 |  | 102 |
| Scad |  | 31 |  | 941 |  |  |  | 0 |  | 7 |
| Grey gurnard |  | 2036 |  | 4653 |  | 1555 |  | 986 |  | 3513 |
| Red gurnard |  | 132 |  | 4653 19 |  | 4135 |  | 1987 |  | 12811 |
| Tub gumard |  | 0 |  | 19 |  | 17 |  | 2 |  | 170 |
| Red mullet |  | 0 |  | 106 |  | 148 |  | 137 |  | 391 |
| Sebastes viv. |  | 0 |  | 26 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 26 |
| Rays |  | 962 |  | 877 |  | 7 |  | 0 |  | 7 |
| S. acanthias |  | 49 |  | 836 |  | 1702 |  | 649 |  | 4190 |
| S. caniculus |  | 35 |  | 317 |  | 58 |  | 75 |  | 518 |
| Tope |  |  |  | 4 |  | 93 |  | 4 |  | 175 |
| M. asterias |  | 1 |  | 3 |  | 11 |  | 17 |  | 32 |
| L.R. dab |  | 574 |  | 414 |  | 11 |  | 1 |  | 7 |
| Turbot |  | 13 |  | 414 |  | 1172 |  | 353 |  | 2513 |
| Brill |  | 14 |  | 25 |  | 17 |  | 33 |  | 88 |
| Megrim |  | 60 |  | 40 |  | 1 |  | 2 |  | 27 |
| Halibut |  | 2 |  | 40 |  | 128 |  | 16 |  | 244 |
| Angler |  | 29 |  | 54 |  | 0 |  | 2 |  | 11 |
| Catfish |  | 1 |  |  |  | 111 |  | 66 |  | 260 |
| Hyperoplus |  | 1 |  | 2 779 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 3 |
| Sandeel |  | 0 |  | 779 65 |  | 8 |  | 4 |  | 794 |
| Total | 15583 | 17773 | 11898 |  |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 65 |
|  |  |  |  | 33062 | 15517 | 36643 | 12168 | 21628 | 55166 | 109106 |

Table 4.2 Number of stomachs examined at sea for each predator size class (all data standardized to 1981 size classes) for each of the primary predator species and quarter.

| size class | $<=99$ |  | 100-149 |  | 150-199 |  | 200-249 |  | 250-299 |  | 300-399 |  | 400-499 |  | 500-699 |  | 700-999 |  | $>=1000$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| year | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 |

Quarter 1

| cod | 1 |  | 113 | 97 | 251 | 195 | 531 | 160 | 601 | 93 | 837 | 40 | 455 | 327 | 556 | 630 | 684 | 425 | 117 | 91 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| haddock |  |  | 238 | 363 | 444 | 681 | 512 | 546 | 629 | 412 | 690 | 712 | 195 | 176 | 42 | 54 |  | 1 |  |  |
| whiting |  | 51 | 1525 | 1406 | 1638 | 1616 | 1623 | 1470 | 1616 | 1465 | 1250 | 1089 | 176 | 53 | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |
| saithe |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 2 | 45 | 452 | 36 | 486 | 170 | 189 | 265 | 66 | 29 | 6 |
| mackerel |  |  |  |  |  | 65 |  | 139 | 145* | 49 | 75 | 69 | 28 | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Quarter 2

| ood |  | 36 | 9 | 176 | 259 | 328 | 515 | 370 | 352 | 538 | 588 | 391 | 521 | 392 | 637 | 180 | 200 | 19 | 29 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| haddock | 12 | 457 | 32 | 576 | 84 | 693 | 1175 | 802 | 964 | 840 | 1451 | 360 | 311 | 66 | 55 | 1 | 1 |  |  |
| whiting | 1 | 428 | 656 | 756 | 2208 | 889 | 2996 | 1161 | 3424 | 924 | 2055 | 53 | 71 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| saithe |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 |  | 7 | 14 | 176 | 7 | 280 | 45 | 146 | 113 | 64 | 6 | 7 |
| mackerel |  |  |  |  | 2 |  | 291 | 253* | 612 | 556 | 1615 | 468 | 121 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Quarter 3

| cod | 90 | 376 | 355 | $2 m$ | 232 | 16 | 87 | 166 | 185 | 446 | 370 | 556 | 337 | 296 | 367 | 283 | 257 | 85 | 49 | 13 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| haddock |  | 700 | 72 | 1881 | 679 | 494 | 1049 | 1404 | 1333 | 1561 | 1451 | 1589 | 455 | 273 | 82 | 51 | 4 | 3 |  |  |
| whiting |  | 990 | 231 | 1679 | 321 | 1053 | ${ }^{843}$ | 2452 | 1131 | 3485 | 1032 | 2878 | 163 | 54 | 6 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| saithe |  |  |  | 1 |  | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 9 | 83 | 110 | 201 | 378 | 358 | 157 | 241 | 50 | 15 |  |
| mackerel |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 80 | 764* | 31 | 1519 | 2170 | 454 | 170 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Quarter 4

| Quarter 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| cod | 1 | 52 | 189 | 396 | 197 | 318 | 19 | 116 | 233 | 104 | 424 | 551 | 404 | 220 | 453 | 248 | 357 | 117 | 54 | 13 |
| haddock |  | 47 | 692 | 647 | 812 | 574 | 919 | 426 | 947 | 688 | 1012 | 1035 | 503 | 214 | 80 | 90 | 1 |  |  |  |
| whiting |  | 201 | 524 | 1373 | 519 | 1829 | 729 | 1971 | 821 | 2207 | 740 | 2102 | 110 | 73 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| saithe |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  | 10 | 75 | 62 | 494 | 170 | 222 | 143 | 21 | 174 | 4 |
| mackerel |  |  |  |  |  | 20 |  | 43 | $120^{*}$ | 110 | 416 | 485 | 147 | 36 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 5.1 Number of stomachs examined at sea and the numbers analysed to date by each country.

| country | species | Nr. examined | Nr. analysed |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Germany haddock 19655 1500 <br> Scotland whiting 41683 13241 <br> Denmark saithe 3876 1500 <br>  rays 4190 1300 <br> Netherlands cod 10577 9170 <br>  grey gurnard 11906 6151 <br> Norway other species 14004 2821 <br> England mackerel 6950 1605 <br> Sweden pelagic 0-gr. 3500 2646 <br>  var. North Sea 791 791 <br>  lar. Skag./Katt. 3464 1632 |  |  |  | | val |
| :--- |

Table 6.1. Data format for stomach content data (from Anon., 1992b)

| Position | Name Ty | Type ${ }^{\text {a }}$ ) | Range of values | Comment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sample identification |  |  |  |
| 1-2 | Ecosystem name | 2 N | 1-8 | North Sea: 01 |
| 3-4 | Year | 2 N | 01-99 | Year - 1900 |
| 5 | Quarter | 1 N | 1-4 |  |
| 6-9 | Square/stratum | 4AN |  | ICES rectangle or survey stratum \# |
| 10-19 | Predator code | 1ON |  | NODC 10-digit |
| 20-24 | Sample (Fish) nr Haul information | 5 N | 1-99999 | Unique fish I.D. |
| 25-27 | Country | 3A |  | ICES alpha codes; no Data:XXX |
| 28-31 | Ship | 4A |  | ICES alpha, if available; otherwise:XXXX |
| 32-34 | Sampling method | 3A |  | See footnote ${ }^{\text {b }}$ ); no data: XXX |
| 35-40 | Station/haul | 6AN |  | Use national system; no data:XXXXXX |
| 41-42 | Month | 2 N | 01-12 | Not known: 99 |
| 43-44 | Day | 2 N | 01-31 | Not known: 99 |
| 45-48 | Time of day | 4N | 0-2399,9999 | hh/mm, local time start of tow; not known: 9999 |
| 49 | Quadrant | 1 N | 1-4,9 | See footnote ${ }^{\text {c }}$ ); not known:9 |
| 50-53 | Latitude | 4 N | 0-9000,9999 | Dd/mm; not known:9999 |
| 54-58 | Longitude | 5 N | 0-18000,99999 | Ddd/mm; not known:99999 |
| 59-61 | Depth (meters) | 3N | 1-999 | Mean depth of tow; not known:999 |
| 62-64 | Temperature (bottom) Predator information | 3N | -9.9 to 99.8 | XX.X one implied decimal; not known:999 |
| 65-68 | Pred. (mean) length | 4N | 1-9999 | mm XXXX |
| 69-73 | Pred. (mean) weight | 5N | 1-99999 | grams XXXXX; not known:99999 |
| 74-75 | Pred. (mean) age | 2N | 0-99 | Not known:99 |
| 76-79 | Pred. lower length bound | d 4 N | 1-9999 | mm XXXX |
| 80-83 | Pred. upper length bound | d 4 N | 1-9999 | mm XXXX |
| 84-90 | CPUE <br> Sample information | 7 N | 1-9999999 | Weighting coeff. for sample; not known: 1 |
| 91-93 | Nr with food | 3N | 0-999 | 0, 1 for individual samples |
| 94-96 | Nr regurgitated | 3N | 0-999 | 0,1 for individual samples |
| 97-99 | Nr with skeletal remains | 3N | 0-999 | 0,1 for individual samples |
| 100-102 | Nr empty Prey information | 3 N | 0-999 | 0,1 for individual samples |
| 103-112 | Prey species code | 1ON |  | NODC 10-digit |
| 113-116 | Prey lower length bound | d 4 N | 1-9999 | mm XXXXg; not known:9999 |
| 117-120 | Prey upper length bound | d 4 N | 1-9999 | mm XXXXg; not known:9999 |
| 121-128 | Prey weight | 8 N | 1-99999999 | Total weight mg XXXXXXXX |
| 129-134 | Prey number | 6 N | 1-999999 | Total number; not known:999999 |
| 135 | Digestion stage | 1 N | 0-2, 9 | See footnote ${ }^{\text {d }}$; not known 9 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ All numeric fields ( N ) right justified, zero filled; all alpha (A) and mixed alpha/numeric fields (AN) left justified, space filled.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ DEM: demersal trawl; PEL: pelagic
${ }^{c} 1$ : NB/EL;2: NB/WL
${ }^{\mathrm{d}} 0$ :pristine condition; 1 : partly digested; 2 : skeletal remains

Table 8.1 1991 IBTS data available in RIVO data base

| Q | vessel | nr of | traw | length |  | num | rs of | liths | lect |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | hauls | list | data | cod | hadd | whit | norw | sait | herr | spra | mack | scad | amm | hype | grgu |


| 1 | Argos | 54 | + | + |  |  |  |  |  | 1371 | 307 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dana | 40 | + | + | 104 | 162 | 1017 |  |  | 4524 | 2666 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Isis | 23 | + | + |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | J.Hjort | 51 | + | + | 460 | 533 | 464 | 213 |  | 2200 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Scotia | 59 | + | + | 462 | 1239 | 1161 | 385 | 55 | 686 | 121 | 53 |  |  | . |  |
|  | Thalassa | 77 | + | + | 204 | 565 | 1208 | 62 |  | 877 | 299 |  |  |  | . |  |
|  | Tridens | 31 | + | + | 516 | 379 | 807 | 85 | 26 | 474 | 241 | 23 | 0 | 6 | 2 |  |
|  | W.Herwig | 91 | + | + | 621 | 920 | 857 |  |  | 542 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | total | 426 |  |  | 2367 | 3798 | 5514 | 745 | 81 | 10674 | 3634 | 76 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 |


| 2 | Cirolana | 73 | + | + | 497 | 1339 | 1434 | 332 | 104 | 1129 | 428 | 236 |  | 202 | 80 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Isis | 29 | + | + |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | J.Hjort | 36 | + | +* | 216 | 390 | 331 | 129 |  | 96 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Scotia | 54 | + | + | 467 | 888 | 954 | 187 | 172 | 976 | 295 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Tridens | 51 | + | + | 960 | 513 | 1034 | 115 | 7 | 390 | 187 | 120 | 228 | (219) | (102) |  |
|  | W.Herwig | 171 | $+$ | + | 1717 | 950 | 1106 | 271 |  | 598 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | total | 414 |  |  | 3857 | 4080 | 4859 | 1034 | 283 | 3189 | 910 | 356 | 228 | 678 | **182 | 0 |


|  | Cirolana | 87 | + | + | 648 | 980 | 1404 | 339 | 173 | 578 | 277 | 162 |  | 26 | 58 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Isis | 25 | + | $+$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 27 | 162 |  | 26 | 58 |  |
|  | J. Hjort |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1572 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Scotia | 90 | $+$ | + | 504 | 1888 | 1522 | 324 | 271 | 2408 | 86 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Tridens | 45 | + | $+$ | 394 | 685 | 788 | 146 | 146 | 300 | 50 | 73 | 298 | (55) | (50) |  |
|  | total | 247 |  |  | 1546 | 3553 | 3714 | 809 | 590 | 4858 | 413 | 235 | 298 | 2516 | **108 | 0 |


| 4 | Cirolana | 61 | + | + | 400 | 955 | 1393 | 399 | 86 | 826 | 486 | 167 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dana | 70 | + | +* | 149 | 694 | 622 | 191 |  |  |  | 90 |  |  |  |  |
|  | G.O. Sars | 47 | + | +* | . | 108 | 90 | . |  | 327 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Isis | 35 | + | + |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Tridens | 37 | + | $+$ | 365 | 110 | 906 | 45 |  | 488 | 189 | 40 | 100 |  |  |  |
|  | total | 250 |  |  | 914 | 1867 | 3011 | 635 | 86 | 1641 | 675 | 297 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

** including market samples
( ) otoliths not yet read

Table 9a Number of Norway pout otoliths collected

| Size group (cm) |  | 2 | $3^{\mathrm{Ro}}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { sh area } \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 st quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8-9 | 5 | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |  | 9 |
| 10-11 | 60 | 55 | 33 | 16 | 16 |  |  | 180 |
| 12-14 | 91 | 56 | 52 | 25 | 25 |  |  | 249 |
| 15-19 | 146 | 43 | 37 | 14 | 35 |  |  | 275 |
| 20-24 | 5 | 11 | 9 | 7 |  |  |  | 32 |
| Total | 307 | 167 | 133 | 62 | 76 | 0 | 0 | 745 |


| $8-9$ | 1 |  | 4 |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $10-11$ | 36 | 124 | 101 | 56 | 61 |  | 4 | 25 |
| $12-14$ | 190 | 73 | 98 | 62 |  | 371 |  |  |
| $15-19$ | 13 | 5 | 7 | 3 |  | 9 | 12 | 444 |
| $20-24$ | 364 | 196 | 165 | 128 | 0 | 13 | 39 | 905 |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| $<=5$ | 8 |  | 2 | 1 |  |  |  | 1 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 6 | 14 |  |  |  |  |  | 11 |  |
| 7 | 19 | 6 | 7 |  |  |  | 1 | 33 |
| $8-9$ | 43 | 13 | 14 |  |  |  |  | 73 |
| $10-11$ | 26 | 22 | 8 |  |  |  | 4 | 139 |
| $12-14$ | 83 | 22 | 20 | 10 |  |  | 16 | 449 |
| $15-19$ | 216 | 99 | 92 | 26 |  |  |  |  |
| $20-24$ | 20 |  | 5 | 2 |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 429 | 162 | 153 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 808 |

4 th quarter

| 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  | 9 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $8-9$ | 37 | 8 | 12 | 5 |  |  |  | 62 |
| $10-11$ | 40 | 12 | 16 | 16 |  |  |  | 86 |
| $12-14$ | 39 | 22 | 15 | 8 |  |  |  | 84 |
| $15-19$ | 90 | 37 | 26 | 19 |  | 16 | 1 | 189 |
| $20-24$ | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 |  |  |  | 14 |
| Total | 218 | 86 | 71 | 50 | 0 | 18 | 18 | 444 |

Table 9b Number of sprat otoliths collected

| Size group (cm) | 1 | 2 | $\begin{array}{lr}  & \mathrm{R} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\frac{h}{4} \text { area }$ | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 st quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  | 2 | 14 | 2 | 18 |
| 6 |  |  |  | 1 | 6 | 54 | 34 | 95 |
| 7 |  |  | 8 | 3 | 4 | 225 | 199 | 439 |
| 8-9 | 4 |  | 49 | 185 | 43 | 1238 | 293 | 1812 |
| 10-11 | 1 | 2 | 64 | 145 | 57 | 315 | 63 | 647 |
| 12-14 | 7 | 3 | 69 | 45 | 84 | 65 | 59 | 332 |
| 15-19 | 2 |  |  |  | 4 | 1 |  | 7 |
| Total | 14 | 5 | 190 | 379 | 200 | 1912 | 650 | 3350 |


| S-5 2 nd quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 |  |  |  |  | 3 | 1 |  | 4 |
| 7 |  |  | 7 |  | 13 | 9 |  | 29 |
| 8-9 |  |  | 27 | 15 | 47 | 29 | 1 | 119 |
| 10-11 |  | 6 | 58 | 82 | 69 | 83 | 27 | 325 |
| 12-14 |  | 84 | 43 | 120 | 97 | 113 | 3 | 460 |
| 15-19 |  | 3 |  | 6 | 8 | 3 |  | 20 |
| Total | 0 | 93 | 135 | 223 | 240 | 238 | 31 | 960 |


| 8-9 |  |  | 4 | 10 | 10 |  |  | 24 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10-11 |  |  | 30 | 46 | 40 | 13 |  | 129 |
| 12-14 |  | 2 | 2 | 131 | 60 | 36 |  | 231 |
| 15-19 |  |  |  | 18 | 7 | 4 |  | 29 |
| Total | 0 | 2 | 36 | 205 | 117 | 53 | 0 | 413 |


| 6 |  |  |  | 2 |  | 1 |  | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 |  |  |  | 2 | 2 | 10 |  | 14 |
| 8-9 |  | 12 |  | 8 | 13 | 32 |  | 65 |
| 10-11 |  | 1 |  | 53 | 81 | 68 | 2 | 205 |
| 12-14 |  | 50 |  | 40 | 102 | 130 | 12 | 334 |
| 15-19 |  | 6 |  |  | 14 | 34 |  | 54 |
| Total | 0 | 69 | 0 | 105 | 212 | 275 | 14 | 675 |

Table 9c Number of lesser sandeel otoliths collected

| Size group (cm) | 1 | 2 | $3^{\mathrm{Ro}}$ | Roundfish area | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 st quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 8-9 |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| 10-11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| 12-14 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 15-19 | 1 |  |  |  | 1 |  |  | 2 |
| Total | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| 2 nd quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8-9 | 9 |  | 1 |  | 6 |  |  | 16 |
| 10-11 | 79 | 1 | 2 |  | 9 | 1 | 1 | 93 |
| 12-14 | 235 | 31 | 6 |  | 15 | 5 | 15 | 307 |
| 15-19 | 69 | 59 | 26 | - 4 | 29 | 21 | 5 | 213 |
| 20-24 |  | 22 | 19 | - 1 | 6 |  | 1 | 49 |
| Total | 392 | 113 | 54 | 4 - 5 | 65 | 27 | 22 | 678 |
| 3 rd quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | 308 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 308 |
| 8-9 | 743 |  |  | 2 |  |  |  | 745 |
| 10-11 | 546 | , |  | 2 |  |  |  | 549 |
| 12-14 | 418 | 40 |  | 2 |  | 1 |  | 461 |
| 15-19 | 382 | 14 |  |  | 6 | 11 |  | 413 |
| 20-24 | 38 |  |  |  | 1 | 1 |  | 40 |
| Total | 2435 | 55 | 0 | 6 | 7 | 13 | 0 | 2516 |
| 4 th quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 9d Number of greater sandeel otoliths collected

| Size group <br> $(\mathrm{cm})$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | Roundfish area | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


| 30-34 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |


| 15-19 |  |  |  |  | 8 | 5 | 5 | 18 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20-24 |  | 17 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 42 |
| 25-29 |  | 4 | 6 | 1 |  | 4 |  | 15 |
| 30-34 |  |  | 2 |  |  | 3 |  | 5 |
| Total | 0 | 21 | 14 | 2 | 13 | 17 | 13 | 80 |


| 15-19 |  |  |  | 2 | 4 | 5 |  | 11 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20-24 |  |  |  | 3 | 9 | 11 |  | 23 |
| 25-29 |  |  |  | 1 | 8 | 8 |  | 17 |
| 30-34 |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |  | 4 |
| 35-39 |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 |  | 3 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 22 | 30 | 0 | 58 |
| 4 th quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 9e Number of herring otoliths collected

| $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { Size group } \\ (\mathrm{cm}) \end{array}$ | 1 | 2 | $3^{\mathrm{Ro}}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { sh area } \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 st quarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8-9 |  |  |  |  |  | 39 | 27 | 66 |
| 10-11 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 10 | 529 | 350 | 891 |
| 12-14 |  | 8 | 54 | 164 | 69 | 1281 | 857 | 2433 |
| 15-19 | 34 | 293 | 169 | 345 | 133 | 790 | 540 | 2304 |
| 20-24 | 536 | 223 | 202 | 531 | 98 | 203 | 274 | 2067 |
| 25-29 | 1251 | 86 | 50 | 108 | 53 | 86 | 66 | 1700 |
| 30-34 | 76 |  |  |  | 1 | 1 | 4 | 82 |
| Total | 1897 | 610 | 476 | 1149 | 364 | 2929 | 2118 | 9543 |


| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 23 | 23 |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 54 | 54 |
| 8-9 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15 | 15 |
| 10-11 |  |  |  |  | 5 |  |  | 5 |
| 12-14 |  |  |  | 1 | 22 | 85 | 40 | 148 |
| 15-19 | 14 | 25 | 48 | 101 | 117 | 207 | 70 | 582 |
| 20-24 | 288 | 290 | 338 | 390 | 78 | 130 | 118 | 1632 |
| 25-29 | 420 | 186 | 195 | 143 | 41 | 73 | 118 | 1176 |
| 30-34 | 37 | 4 | 12 |  |  | 9 | 3 | 65 |
| Total | 759 | 505 | 593 | 635 | 263 | 504 | 443 | 3702 |


| $8-9$ |  |  | 1 |  |  | 5 |  | 1 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $10-11$ |  |  | 9 |  |  | 31 | 10 | 44 |
| $12-14$ | 18 | 34 | 63 | 47 |  | 39 | 33 | 234 |
| $15-19$ | 175 | 128 | 149 | 190 | 19 | 18 | 163 | 842 |
| $20-24$ | 2518 | 511 | 405 | 224 | 20 | 16 | 32 | 3726 |
| $25-29$ | 251 | 312 | 46 | 2 |  |  | 1517 |  |
| $30-34$ | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $35-39$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 3622 | 924 | 945 | 507 | 41 | 109 | 238 | 6386 |


| $10-11$ |  | 1 |  | 14 | 1 | 16 |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $12-14$ |  | 35 |  | 25 | 8 | 86 | 26 | 180 |
| $15-19$ | 79 |  | 14 | 12 | 182 | 28 | 315 |  |
| $20-24$ | 4 | 61 |  | 58 | 3 | 183 | 17 | 326 |
| $25-29$ | 356 | 119 |  | 31 | 4 | 161 |  | 671 |
| $30-34$ | 105 | 9 |  | 1 |  | 6 |  | 121 |
| Total | 465 | 304 | 0 | 129 | 27 | 632 | 72 | 1629 |

Table 12.1 Minimum desirable level of identification for non-fish prey observed in stomachs.

| 1500000000 | PHAEOPHYTA | 6153000000 | MYSIDA |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 6154000000 | CUMACEA |
| 3600000000 | PORIFERA | 6158000000 | ISOPODA |
|  |  | 6168000000 | AMPHIPODA |
| 3700000000 | CNIDARIA | 6169000000 | GAMMARIDEA |
| 3701000000 | HYDROZOA | 6170000000 | HYPERIIDEA |
| 3730000000 | ScYpHOZOA | 6174000000 | EUPHAUSIACEA |
| 3740000000 | ANTHOZOA | 6177000000 | PENAEIDEA |
| 3744000000 | OCTOCORALLIA | 6179000000 | CARIDEA |
| 3747000000 | ALCYONACEA | 6179180000 | PANDALDAE |
|  |  | 6179180100 | PANDALUS |
| 3800000000 | CTENOPHORA | 6179180101 | PANDALUS BOREALIS |
|  |  | 6179180104 | PANDALUS MONTAGUI |
| 5000000000 | ANNELIDA | 6179180108 | PANDALUS PROPINQUS |
| 5001000000 <br> 5001010105 | POLYCHAETA | 6179180110 | PANDALUS BREVIROSTRIS |
| 5001130000 | PFYLLODOCIDAE | 6179220000 6179220100 | CRANGONIDAE |
| 5001200000 | TOMOPTERIDAE | 6179220110 | CRANGONINTERMEDIA |
| 5001240000 | NEREIDAE | 6179220118 | CRANGON CRANGON |
| 5001250000 | NEPHTYIDAE | 6179220119 | CRANGON ALIMANNI |
| 5001300000 | EUNICIDAE | 6181010202 | HOMARUS VULGARIS |
| 5001600000 | CAPITELLIDAE | 6181010301 | NEPHROPS NORVEGICUS |
| 5501620203 | ARENICOLA MARINA | 6183000000 | ANOMURA |
| 5001650100 | SABELLARIA | 6183040000 | CALLIANASSIDAE |
| 5001671700 | PECTINARIA | 6183060000 | PAGURIDAE |
| 5001680000 | TEREBELLDAE | 6183100000 | GALATHEIDAE |
|  |  | 6183120000 | PORCELLANIDAE |
|  | GASTROPODA | 6184000000 | BRACHYURA |
| 5105040145 | BUCCINUM UNDATUM | 6188000000 | CANCRIDEA |
| 5105050812 | NEPTUNEA ANTIQUA | 6188010101 | CORYSTES CASSIVELANUS |
| 5127000000 | NUDIBRANCHIA | 6188020301 | ATELECYCLUSROTUNDATUS |
|  |  | 6188030109 | CANCER PAGURUS |
| 5300000000 | POLYPLACOPHORA | 6189000000 | BRACHYRHYNCHA |
|  |  | 6189010000 | PORTUNIDAE |
| 5500000000 | BIVALVIA | 6189010701 | CARCINUS MAENAS |
| 5507010101 | MYTILUS EDULIS | 6189010900 | MACROPIPUS |
| 5507010601 5509050401 | MODIOLUS MODIOLUS |  |  |
| 5509050401 5515220000 | PECTEN MAXIMUS | 6213000000 | Insecta |
| 5515220000 5515290000 | CARDIIDAE |  | SPU |
| 5515290000 5515310000 | SOLENIDAE | 7200000000 | SIPUNCULA |
| 5515350203 | ABRA ALBA |  |  |
| 5515470000 | VENERIDAE | 7300000000 | ECHIURA |
| 5515510101 | CYPRINA ISLANDICA | 7400000000 | PRIAPULIDA |
| 5517000000 | MYINA |  | rialida |
| 5600000000 | SCAPHOPODA | 7800000000 | ECTOPROCTA |
| 5700000000 | CEPHALOPODA | 8000000000 | BRACHIOPODA |
| 5704000000 | SEPIIDA | 8100000000 |  |
| 5706010000 | LOLIGINIDAE | 8117030205 | ASTERIAS RUBENS |
| 5706010102 | LOLIGO VULGARIS | 8127010600 | OPHIURA |
| 5706010103 | LOLIGO FORBESI | 8129031000 | AMPHIURA |
| 5706010301 | ALLOTHEUTIS SUBULATA | 8149000000 | ECHINOIDA |
| 5708010000 | OCTOPODDAE | 8149010101 | ECHINUS ESCULENTUS |
| 5708010202 | OCTOPUS VULGARIS | 8163020101 | SPATANGUS PURPUREUS |
| 5708010401 | ELEDONE CIRROSA | 8163030101 | ECHINOCARDIUM CORDATUM |
| 6001010108 | NYMPHON GRACILE | 8170000000 | HOLOTHUROID |
| 6001080103 | PYCNOGONUMLITTORALE |  | HoLotheromea |
| 6100000000 | CRUSTACEA | 8300000000 | CHAETOGNATHA |
| 6109000000 | CLADOCERA | 8400000000 | UROCHORDATA |
| 6118000000 | CALANOIDA | 8401000000 | ASCIDIACEA |
| 6119000000 | HARPACTICOIDA | 8407000000 | thaliacea |
| 6132000000 | LEPADOMORPHA | 8411000000 | SALPIDA |
| 6134000000 | BALANOMORPHA | 8413000000 | LARVACEA |
| 6143000000 | MALACOSTRACA |  | LARACEA |
| 6145000000 | LEPTOSTRACA | 8500010102 | BRANCHIOSTOMA LANCEOLATA |


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