



COMITE DES POISSONS DE FOND

par

Cl. Marin

1977

Allemagne (République Démocratique)

(P. Ernst)

Sampling: COD

Area	Season	Type of Fish	No. of Samples		No. of Fish		
			Vessel	Market	measured	aged	examined racially
IIa (NW-Norway)	4	Adults/Immat.	5	-	1 506	807	-
IIb (W-Spitsbergen)	3	"	11	-	1 807	450	-
	4	"	55	-	3 724	1 066	-

Sampling: GREENLAND HALIBUT

IIa (NW-Norway)	4	Adults/Immat.	5	-	209	100	-
IIb (W-Spitsbergen, Bear-Island)	3	"	35	-	5 680	1 311	-
	4	"	29	-	3 839	967	- x)

Sampling: REDFISH (Sebastes marinus)

IIa (N-Norway)	4	Adults/Immat.	14	-	756	-	-
IIa (North-Cape)	4	"	18	-	521	-	-
IIb (Bear-Island-Spitsbergen)	4	"	54	2	3 707	200	-

x) Parasitological investigations of Greenland Halibut (Bear Island) were carried out.

Sampling: REDFISH (*Sebastes mentella*)

Area	Season	Type of Fish	No. of Samples		No. of Fish		
			Vessel	Market	measured	aged	examined racially
IIa (Kopytov)	2	Adults/ Immat.	3	-	-	828	-
IIa (North-Cape)	4	"	15	-	594	-	-
IIb (Bear Island/Spitsbergen)	3	"	14	-	4 721	1 100	-
IIb (Bear- Island/Spits- bergen)	4	"	71	-	6 218	-	-
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Sampling: <u>REDFISH</u> (<i>Sebastes viviparus</i>)							
IVa (Eastern North Sea)	3	Adults/ Immat.	2	-	221	-	-
IIa (West Norway)	4	"	4	-	100	-	-
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Sampling: <u>SAITHE</u>							
IIa (Svinøy, Haltenbank, Röst)	1	Adults, Spawn. Immat.	22	-	9 945	2 000	-
IID (Fugloy, Röst)	4	Immat./ Adults	7	-	1 303	615	-
IVa (Finkenwerder)	3	"	5	-	729	616	-

Tagging: No tagging experiments were carried out in 1977.

Research Vessel Surveys

Area	Dates	Objectives
Northern North Sea	16 - 18 Sept.	Saithe
Bear-Island, West Spitsbergen	13 - 22 Oct.	Greenland Halibut, Cod, Redfish
Bear-Island, West Spitsbergen, Kopytov, West of Norway	30 Oct. - 24 Nov.	Cod, Saithe, Greenland Halibut, Redfish

Other Research Activities

During the research vessel surveys the following hydrographic stations (temperature, salinity) were carried out as basis of environmental investigations :

Area	Dates	No. of stations
Spitsbergen-Bear Island	October	68
Spitsbergen-Bear Island	Oct./Nov.	118
West Coast of Norway	November	18

Allemagne (République Fédérale)

(G. RAUCK)

Continuation of the Wadden Sea sampling programme along the German coast with special reference to juvenile plaice, sole, dab, flounder, cod, haddock and whiting (joint demersal young fish survey in collaboration with Holland and Belgium).

The market sampling (length distribution, otoliths) on demersal fish species from the North Sea and the North Atlantic was continued.

Sampling of data as length measurements, otoliths, sex, maturity stages, etc. on board commercial and research vessels was continued as in the previous years.

RESEARCH VESSEL SURVEYS

Area	Date	Objectives
<u>"Anton Dohrn"</u>		
North Sea	20.01.-18.02.	I Y H S 1977
Iceland	18.04.-14.05.	Research on Gear Selectivity
Bear Island-Spitzbergen	18.07.-20.08.	Groundfish Survey

Area	Date	Objectives
		<u>"Poseidon"</u>
North Sea	27.01.-27.02.	Groundfish Survey
		<u>"Solea"</u>
North Sea	06.01.-26.01.	Groundfish Survey
- " -	05.03.-21.03.	- " - and research on gear
- " -	26.03.-09.04.	- " -
- " -	09.05.-20.05.	- " -
- " -	14.07.-26.07.	- " -
- " -	24.08.-06.09.	- " - and pollution studies
- " -	13.09.-03.10.	- " -
- " -	23.11.-06.12.	- " -
- " -	10.12.-21.12.	- " -

TAGGING

Area	Season	Type of Tags	No. Tagged	Type of Fish
IV b	II	red soft plastic discs	517	plaice
IV b	IV	yellow spaghetti tags	824	cod

Sampling Data for SOLE

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples Research Vessels	No. of Fish			Racial Invest.	No. of Samples Market Samples	No. of Fish			Racial Invest.
			Measured	Aged				Measured	Aged		
IV b	I	36	831	518	--	--	6	898	464	--	--
	II	51	1869	640	--	--	3	2815	590	--	--
	III	61	1801	202	--	--	1	213	63	--	--
	IV	59	1273	--	--	--	2	1649	685	--	--
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Sampling Data for <u>BRILL</u>											
IV b	I	15	31	26	--	--	1	10	10	--	--
	II	21	283	153	--	--	2	192	42	--	--
	III	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	IV	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
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Sampling Data for <u>TURBOT</u>											
IV b	I	40	700	308	--	--	8	491	220	--	--
	II	19	267	251	--	--	3	605	135	--	--
	III	4	6	--	--	--	3	347	210	--	--
	IV	--	--	--	--	--	1	404	241	--	--

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)

²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Sampling Data for DAB

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples		No. of Fish		Racial Invest.	No. of Samples		No. of Fish		Racial Invest.
		Research Vessels		Measured	Aged		Market Samples		Measured	Aged	
IV b	I	16		574	--	--	--		--	--	--
	II	7		619	--	--	--		--	--	--
	III	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--
	IV	90		22210	--	--	--		--	--	--
IV c	I	2		133	--	--	--		--	--	--
<hr/>											
Sampling Data for <u>FLOUNDER</u>											
IV b	I	11		171	--	--	--		--	--	--
	II	8		21	--	--	--		--	--	--
	III	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--
	IV	65		4446	--	--	--		--	--	--
IV c	I	3		17	--	--	--		--	--	--
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Sampling Data for <u>PLAICE</u>											
IV b	I	59		7078	1289	--	8		8654	1338	--
	II	27		1702	--	--	5		5257	1017	--
	III	5		620	--	--	7		6815	1109	--
	IV	97		9997	--	--	7		5931	1366	--
IV c	I	6		208	208	--	--		--	--	--

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)

²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Sampling Data for NORWAY POUT

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples Research Vessels	No. of Fish			No. of Samples, No. of Fish			Racial Invest.
			Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	
IV a	I	24	4880	--	--	--	--	--	--
IV b	I	19	1269	--	--	--	--	--	--
<u>Sampling Data for <i>Gadus minutus</i></u>									
IV b	II	2	158	--	--	--	--	--	--
	IV	1	23	--	--	--	--	--	--
IV c	I	1	28	--	--	--	--	--	--
<u>Sampling Data for <i>Gadus luscus</i></u>									
IV b	I	1	18	--	--	--	--	--	--
	II	4	139	--	--	--	--	--	--
	IV	9	411	--	--	--	--	--	--
IV c	I	2	41	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)

²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Sampling Data for WHITING

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples		No. of Fish			No. of Samples		No. of Fish			Racial Invest.
		Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.	Measured	Aged	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.	
IV a	I	26		2217	353	--		--		--	--	--
IV b	I	53		7590	554	--		--		--	--	--
	II	6		798	--	--		--		--	--	--
	III	24		5565	--	--		--		--	--	--
	IV	73		3858	--	--		--		--	--	--
IV c	I	10		1018	--	--		--		--	--	--

Sampling Data for <u>HADDOCK</u>												
II a	I	--		--	--	--	14		3077	1598	--	--
	II	11		5826	585	--	1		174	79	--	--
II b	III	2		87	16	--	1		445	445	--	--
	I	44		11280	3179	--		--		--	--	--
IV b	I	75		5725	2411	--		--		--	--	--
	II	1		2	--	--		--		--	--	--
	I	--		--	--	--	2		546	262	--	--
	II	28		2827	193	--		--		--	--	--
V a	III	--		--	--	--	1		275	144	--	--
	IV	--		--	--	--	1		290	113	--	--
	III	3		260	193	--		--		--	--	--
VI b	III											

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Sampling Data for COALFISH

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples		No. of Fish			No. of Samples		No. of Fish			Racial Invest.
		Research Vessels		Measured	Aged		Market Samples		Measured	Aged		
II a	I	--		--	--	--	5		1888	1580	--	
	II	--		--	--	--	5		2003	429	--	
	III	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	1		313	313	--	
IV a	II	--		--	--	--	1		577	288	--	
	III	--		--	--	--	3		890	543	--	
V a	I	--		--	--	--	9		2865	1488	--	
	II	28		10775	531	--	9		3301	1605	--	
	III	--		--	--	--	14		3830	1652	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	7		2072	795	--	
V b	I	--		--	--	--	1		334	334	--	
	II	--		--	--	--	2		555	555	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	2		515	317	--	
VI a	I	3		125	47	--	4		1579	813	--	

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)

²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Sampling Data for COD

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples		No. of Fish			No. of Samples		No. of Fish			Racial Invest.
		Research Vessels		Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.	Market Samples		Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.	
II a	I	--		--	--	--	13		2852	1563	--	
	II	17		11212	681	--	2		332	191	--	
II b	III	35		3165	1086	--	--		--	--	--	
IV a	I	24		177	168	--	--		--	--	--	
	II	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
	III	1		179	179	--	--		--	--	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
IV b	I	121		6352	593	--	--		--	--	--	
	II	29		4180	621	--	--		--	--	--	
	III	71		10906	2946	--	--		--	--	--	
	IV	133		18577	1245	--	--		--	--	--	
IV c	I	13		759	159	--	--		--	--	--	
	II	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
	III	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
V a	I	--		--	--	--	4		811	472	--	
	II	15		1195	955	--	1		362	166	--	
	III	--		--	--	--	2		462	269	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	--		--	--	--	
XIV	I	--		--	--	--	3		970	286	--	
	II	--		--	--	--	3		1112	571	--	
	III	2		344	205	--	3		916	311	--	
	IV	--		--	--	--	3		1320	351	--	

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)

²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Sampling Data for REDFISH* S. marinus** S. mentella

Area ¹⁾	Season ²⁾	No. of Samples				No. of Fish				Racial Invest.	Racial Invest.
		Research Vessels	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest.		
I and II b	III*	8	1360	240	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	III**	7	1598	319	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
II a	I*	--	--	--	--	4	1223	--	--	--	--
	II*	--	--	--	--	6	1853	256	--	--	--
V a	I*	--	--	--	--	8	1576	300	--	--	--
	II*	10	1826	500	--	4	501	269	--	--	--
	III*	--	--	--	--	6	1068	194	--	--	--
	IV*	--	--	--	--	9	1832	200	--	--	--
	I**	--	--	--	--	8	2159	--	--	--	--
	II**	59	8864	811	--	14	3644	--	--	--	--
	III**	--	--	--	--	12	3116	100	--	--	--
	IV**	--	--	--	--	8	2009	317	--	--	--
V b	II*	--	--	--	--	2	457	176	--	--	--
	IV*	7	3200	500	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	I**	--	--	--	--	1	548	--	--	--	--
	II**	--	--	--	--	1	217	--	--	--	--
XIV	I*	--	--	--	--	9	2623	--	--	--	--
	II*	--	--	--	--	1	261	--	--	--	--
	III*	12	1172	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	IV*	--	--	--	--	3	771	--	--	--	--
	III**	24	3015	300	--	5	1509	50	--	--	--

¹⁾ ICES Statistical Fishing Areas (except for herring in the North Sea)²⁾ By quarters of year if possible.

Belgique
(P. Hovart)

The determination of the density and the growth per year-class of soles, plaice, dab, flounders and gadoids along the Belgian coast has been continued on the R.V. "Hinders".

Two cruises were carried out for the demersal young fish survey in collaboration with the Netherlands and Germany.

The market sampling was continued covering cod-North Sea, whiting-North Sea, haddock-North Sea, plaice-North Sea-English Channel-Bristol Channel-Irish Sea, sole-North Sea-English Channel-Bristol Channel and Irish Sea.

Species	Season	N° of samples		N° of samples	
		Research vessel	Market samples	Measured	aged
<u>Sole</u> IV	1	-	11	1094	210
	2	-	12	1074	200
	3	-	12	1244	210
	4	-	13	1262	210
<u>VII f</u>	1	-	11	1106	280
	2	-	4	311	210
	3	-	2	180	70
	4	-	2	210	210
<u>VII a</u>	1	-	6	623	210
	2	-	5	470	200
	3	-	2	140	140
	4	-	9	993	210
<u>VII d, e</u>	1-4	-	4	320	210
<u>Plaide</u> IV	1	-	11	671	150
	2	-	10	551	150
	3	-	11	721	100
	4	-	13	654	150
<u>VII f</u>	1-4	-	16	922	300
<u>VII a</u>	1-4	-	16	982	300
<u>VII d, e</u>	1-4	-	4	213	213
<u>Cod</u> IV	1	-	6	215	213
	2	-	7	210	210
	3	-	4	130	130
	4	-	5	172	172
<u>Whiting</u> IV	1	-	6	120	120
	2	-	5	100	100
	3	-	4	91	90
	4	-	6	110	110

Canada
P.F. Lett)

1. Evaluation des stocks commerciaux et pré-commerciaux de poisson de fond à l'aide d'un chalut de fond, dans le sud du golfe du Saint-Laurent, sur les bancs au large de la Nouvelle-Ecosse et dans la baie de Fundy.
2. Etude de l'écologie des oeufs et larves de poisson de fond dans le golfe du Saint-Laurent ainsi que sur le plateau continental au large de la Nouvelle-Ecosse.
3. Etude des mécanismes de recrutement des poissons de fond grâce à l'analyse des captures d'oeufs, de larves et de juvéniles.
4. Dynamique de populations de certains stocks côtiers.
5. Etude de l'influence de certains paramètres de l'environnement sur les prises de poissons par les navires de recherches et commerciaux.
6. Etude de la ponte et de la fécondité de l'aiglefin.
7. Etudes parasitologiques en fonction de l'écologie, la distribution et la mortalité de l'aiglefin, la morue et les poissons plats dans le golfe du Saint-Laurent, sur le plateau continental Néo-Ecossais et dans la baie de Fundy.
8. Localisation des stocks de poissons de fond dans le sud du golfe du Saint-Laurent à l'aide de méthode hydro-acoustique.
9. Etude de la possibilité de déterminer l'abondance des stocks de poissons par des méthodes hydro-acoustiques.
10. Collecte et compilation de statistiques détaillées sur les débarquements, les zones de pêche et l'effort de pêche de la flotte mobile.
11. Echantillonnage de la longueur et de l'âge des débarquements commerciaux pour les principales espèces de poissons de fond.
12. Etude des relations entre les captures de poissons de fond et l'environnement.

Denmark

(E. Ursin) 1977.

The RV "Dana" took part in the Young Fish Survey in the North Sea in February.

Sampling.

Species, Area	Season	No of samples		No of fish	
		Research vessel	Market	Measured	Aged
<u>Cod</u>	I	-	27	648	228
North Sea IV	II	-	29	694	302
	III	-	18	491	269
	IV	-	14	481	225
Skagerrak-Kattegat	I	-	25	279	279
III a	II	-	19	240	240
	III	-	37	495	455
	IV	-	86	721	721
<u>Haddock</u>	I	-	81	487	487
North Sea IV	II	-	13	54	54
	III	-	30	76	76
	IV	-	64	270	270
Skagerrak-Kattegat	I	-	7	17	17
III a	II	-	3	6	6
	III	-	14	41	41
	IV	-	16	67	67
<u>Whiting</u>	I	-	108	1504	1504
North Sea IV	II	-	52	341	341
	III	-	43	499	499
	IV	-	101	1176	1176
Skagerrak-Kattegat	I	-	27	314	314
III a	II	-	18	46	46
	III	-	54	2416	2416
	IV	-	100	3488	3488
<u>Norway Pout</u>	I	-	74	7788	7788
North Sea IV	II	-	9	978	978
	III	-	27	2561	2561
	IV	-	55	7340	7340
Skagerrak-Kattegat	I	-	15	122	122
III a	II	-	3	88	88
	III	-	10	802	802
	IV	-	5	430	430

Species, Area	Season	No of samples		No of fish	
		Research vessel	Market	Measured	Aged
<u>Sandeel</u>	I	-	20	3084	3084
North Sea IV	II	-	77	10262	10262
	III	-	28	3864	3864
	IV	-	13	2052	2052
Skagerrak-Kattegat	I	-	3	350	350
III a	II	-	19	2615	2615
	III	-	5	651	651
	IV	-	2	4	1
<u>Plaice</u>	I	-	-	202	202
North Sea IV	II	-	3	3	-
	III	-	-	369	369
	IV	-	-	188	188
Skagerrak-Kattegat	I	-	3	263	260
III a	II	-	4	630	625
	III	-	4	591	586
	IV	-	7	709	699
<u>Sole</u>	II	-	-	3493	626
North Sea IV					

Feroe
(K. Hoydal)

R/V Jens Chr. Svabo participated in the international 0-group survey at the Faroes, and worked all the year in the Faroe Area surveying demersal resources.

The hired fishing vessel "Morgunstjörnan" had rather extensive fishing trials in the east Greenland Area between Tingmiarmiut and Angmagssalik. An observer covered the cruise and undertook rather extensive sampling of the catches.

Due to restriction on manpower only the three main stocks in the Faroe Area of commercial importance have been covered by regular sampling of all gears involved.

Sampling

	ICES AREA Vb n° of gears	samples	measured	aged
cod	4	41	6469	1605
haddock	2	27	5507	1072
saithe	2	20	1838	467
	ICES AREA WIVa			
cod	1	14	1258	1145

Occasional samples have been taken from landings from the Icelandic Area.

The material has been used by the Faroe Working Group and The Saithe Working Group, as part of the database for assessing TAC's for 1979.

Espagne
(R. Robles)

1. Travaux réalisés par l'Institut espagnol d'Océanographie (I.E.O.).

Travaux à la mer.

Le laboratoire des îles Canaries a poursuivi ses travaux sur des chalutiers de la flottille commerciale pour étudier les rejets de poissons dans la pêcherie de l'ouest Afrique ($21^{\circ}30$ à $25^{\circ}00$ N), en effectuant 4 campagnes dans lesquelles on avait réalisé des mensurations sur différentes espèces (*Dentex macrophthalmus*, *Solea vulgaris vulgaris*, *Callionymus lyra*, *Trachinus araneus*, *Diplodus senegalensis*, *Trigla lucerna*, *Pagellus acarne*, *Spondylisoma cantharus*, *Trachinus draco*, *Arnoglossus blachei* et *Dicologloglosa cuneata*).

Une campagne sur le bateau océanographique "Cornide de Saavedra" (1-21 septembre) a été effectuée au large du NO de l'Espagne et avait pour but l'étude des nurseries du merly et l'essai des comparaisons entre les rendements obtenus par le chalut conventionnel et le chalut à grande ouverture verticale.

A part le merlu, on a effectué des mensurations sur *Micromesistius poutassou*, *Lepidorhombus boscii* et *L. whiff-iagonis*, *Trachurus trachurus* et *Nephrops norvegicus*.

En outre, diverses sorties ont été effectuées à bord des chalutiers pêchant sur le plateau continental du NO espagnol.

Travaux à terre.

a. Merlu. La recherche a porté sur les points suivants :

. poursuite de la récolte des données sur la composition des captures et l'effort, selon les différentes zones de pêche,

. étude particulière du stock du plateau continental du NO de l'Espagne compte tenu des différents engins de pêche utilisés (chalut, palangre et fillet maillant grand et petit),

. l'étude de la flottille palangrière pêchant cette espèce est maintenant

b. Autres espèces. Poursuite de l'étude des captures des chalutiers et ligneurs pêchant la dorade (*Pagellus bogaraveo*) sur la côte cantabrique et de la récolte des données de capture et d'effort pour les cardines (*Lepidorhombus whiff-iagonis* et *L. boscii*) et les baudroies (*Lophius budegassa* et *L. piscatoria*)

2. Travaux réalisés par d'autres organismes.

L'Institut pour les Recherches sur les Pêcheries a réalisé, pendant cette année, une révision systématique des poissons capturés pendant des campagnes au large de la côte du NO Africain (Atlor III et Atlor V), ce qui a permis d'avancer dans la connaissance de certains aspects des relations écologiques entre sparidés et céphalopodes.

Pour la côte NO de l'Espagne, on a continué les études biologiques et biométriques sur quelques espèces d'importance commerciale (*Lepidorhombus boscii* et *L. whiff-iagonis*, *Trachurus trachurus*, *Sprattus sprattus*, *Merluccius merluccius*, *Scomber scombrus*, *Pagellus cantabricus*, *Aspitrigla cuculus* et *A. lucerna*).

Les données obtenues pendant la campagne "Galicia III" ont permis de calculer le recrutement et la mortalité du merlu et du merlan bleu, ainsi que la distribution et l'abondance pour les 21 espèces de poissons les plus importantes dans la pêcherie du plateau galicien.

3. Travaux pour 1978.

. Continuation des études déjà entreprises dans les régions N et NO de l'Espagne, comme dans la zone canario-africaine où il est prévu de consacrer 2 campagnes à l'étude de la distribution du merlu dans les eaux de l'ouest africain.

. Crédit d'un groupe de travail entre les deux Instituts de recherche espagnols pour l'étude conjointe du merlu des secteurs VIIIc ouest et IX du CIEM.

. Il est également prévu de réaliser, si possible, une campagne avec chalut pélagique ou à grande ouverture verticale pour estimer les rendements potentiels en chincharde, merlan bleu et maquereaux sur les côtes de la Galice.

4. Echantillonnage de l'I.E.O. pour le merlu (voir tableau ci-après).

Echantillonnages de l'Institut espagnol d'Océanographie. MERLU (1977)

- 18 -

Secteur CIEM	Saison	Nombre d'échantillon			Nombre de poissons		
		Navires de recherche	Navires commerciaux	Marchés	Navires de recherche	Navires commerciaux	Marchés
VII	1er trimestre			4			1.351
	2er trimestre			5			1.459
	3er trimestre			2			228
	4er trimestre			-			-
VIII	1er trimestre			10			897
	2er trimestre			10			1.980
	3er trimestre	29		2	2.755		375
	4er trimestre			4			763
IX	1er trimestre	--	--	--	--	--	--
	2er trimestre	--	2	6	--	328	395
	3er trimestre	14	3	4	539	134	316
	4er trimestre	--	--	4	--	--	294

Finlande

(E. Aro et R. Parmanne)

No work done on demersal fish other than that reported to the Baltic Fish Committee.

France

(J. Dardignac et J. Gueguen)

I. Travaux réalisés par l'Institut scientifique et technique des Pêches maritimes (ISTPM).

1. Travaux à la mer.

Les navires de recherche français ont pris part aux campagnes internationales d'inventaire de jeunes poissons :

- . young herring survey en février en mer du Nord
- . O group survey aux Féroé en juin (29 stations)
- . jeunes poissons plats en Manche orientale et au sud de la mer du Nord en août-septembre
- . jeunes merlus dans le golfe de Gascogne.

De plus, une première mission consacrée à l'étude de la répartition des principales espèces dans le sud de la mer d'Irlande (VII A) et la mer Celtique (VII e, f, g, h) a eu lieu en décembre.

En liaison avec l'étude des nuisances dues à d'éventuelles extractions d'agrégats marins ou d'éventuelles implantations de centrales thermo-nucléaires, les travaux d'inventaire des ressources du secteur littoral (jusqu'aux fonds de 40 m) ont été poursuivis et intensifiés. Un intérêt particulier est porté aux frayères et nurseries. A cet effet, des campagnes mensuelles ou trimestrielles ont eu lieu au long des côtes françaises de la mer du Nord, de la Manche et du golfe de Gascogne.

Des travaux de marquages portant sur 206 soles et 263 plies appartenant principalement au groupe I ont eu lieu en Manche orientale.

Enfin, 11 sorties ont été effectuées à bord des chalutiers rochellais en octobre et novembre 1977.

2. Travaux à terre.

2.1. Pour la mer du Nord et la Manche orientale, des clefs taille-âge ont été réalisées pour l'églefin, le merlan, la morue et la sole. Un travail analogue est en cours pour le lieu noir de la sous-zone VIa.

Pour répondre à une demande du CIEM, une recherche sur la croissance de la dorade grise (*Spondylisoma cantharus*) a été débutée à partir des pêches commerciales du golfe de Gascogne.

2.2. Les recherches sur le merlu ont porté sur les points suivants :

. la croissance, par mensuration des anneaux sur des otolithes polis à plat ;

. les caractères mériстиques sur des échantillons du groupe 0 de différentes origines ;

. la sélectivité et en particulier sur la relation entre l'écart de sélection et ℓ_{50} ;

. les nurseries sur lesquelles un essai de synthèse a fait l'objet d'une note au CIEM. Par ailleurs, une étude des relations entre les facteurs du milieu et les concentrations des groupes 0 et I a été entreprise.

II. Travaux réalisés par d'autres organismes (O.R.S.T.O.M.).

Les Centres de recherches de Dakar, Abidjan et Pointe Noire, animés par des équipes de chercheurs de l'O.R.S.T.O.M. ont poursuivi, en 1977, les travaux sur les espèces démersales exploitées du golfe de Guinée. Au niveau des trois centres, les données de prise et d'effort des flottes nationales et internationales qui fréquentent la région ont été collectées. Un certain nombre de missions en mer, complétées par des travaux en laboratoire, ont permis de préciser les connaissances déjà acquises sur la biologie des principales espèces. Au Sénégal et en Côte d'Ivoire, un effort particulier a été consacré à l'étude des pêcheries artisanales.

Les campagnes d'échointégration effectuées dans le golfe de Guinée ont permis de préciser l'évaluation des stocks démersaux de la région.

III. Echantillonages effectués à bord de navires de recherches ou sur les marchés français.

région	saison	Nb d'échantillons		Nb poissons mesurés	Nb otolithes prélevés
		Nav. recherche	marché		
Roussette	! VIII a	! 1er trim	! gr.fish surv.	107	!
	! VII a	! 2ème trim	! -		
	! VII f	! 4ème trim.	! -		
Chien	! VII g	! 4ème trim	! -	52	!
	! Raies	! 4ème trim	! -	161	!
Raies	VII a	4ème trim	-	132	!
	VII f	-	-	74	!
	VII g	-	-	40	!

région	saison	Nb d'échantillons		Nb poissons mesurés	Nb ctoolithes prélevés
		Nav. recherche	marché		
Morue					
IV a	1er trim	young fish surv.		1 417	358
V b	2ème trim	29		962 larvés	
VI a	1er trim		2	160	
	3ème trim		1	122	
	4ème trim		1	84	
VII a	1er trim		2	351	
	2ème trim		1	127	
	3ème trim		1	187	
	4ème trim	1	3	320	
VII g	1er trim		3	182	
	2ème trim			48	
	3ème trim		2	248	
	4ème trim		1	19	
VII d	3ème trim		2	22	
Merlan					
IV	1er trim	young fish surv.		4 338	391
VI a	1er trim		1	106	
VII a	1er trim		1	263	
	2ème trim		1	230	
	3ème trim		1	242	
	4ème trim	1	3	1 237	133
VII d	3ème trim			37	
VII e	4ème trim	1		32	30
VII f	3ème trim		2	339	
	4ème trim	1	2	635	201
VII g	1er trim		1	207	
	2ème trim		2	419	
	3ème trim		1	275	
	4ème trim	1	2	469	60
VII h	4ème trim	1		5	
VIII a	2ème trim	2		2 807	
	3ème trim	2		400	
	4ème trim	3		1 732	

région	saison	Nb d'échantillons		Nb poissons mesurés	Nb otolithes prélevés
		Nav. recherche	marché		
Eglefin	IV	1er trim	young herr. S.		984
	IV a			1	194
	VI a	1er trim		1	162
		2ème trim		1	63
		4ème trim		2	331
	VII c			1	79
	VII f	1er trim		1	276
		2ème trim		1	104
		3ème trim		1	56
Merlu	VII g	2ème trim		1	105
	VII e	4ème trim		1	149
	VII a	4ème trim	1		6
Lieu Noir	VII e	4ème trim	1		21
	VII f	4ème trim	1		251
	VII g	1er trim		1	119
		4ème trim	1		37
	VII h	4ème trim	1		11
	VIII a	2ème trim	1		410
		4ème trim	2		3 437
Lieu Jaune	IV a	1er trim		1	98
		4ème trim		1	210
	V b	2ème trim	29	1	1 225 larves
		3ème trim		1	125
		4ème trim		1	125
	VI a	1er trim		4	408
		3ème trim		2	380
		4ème trim		3	418
	VII a			2	211
VII e	4ème trim	ground fish S.			84
	VII f	4ème trim			48

région	saison	Nb d'échantillons	Nb poissons		Nb otolithes prélevés
			Nav. recherche	marché	
Lingue					
VII e	4ème trim	ground fish S.		20	
Poutassou					
VII e	4ème trim			231	
VII g	4ème trim			216	
VII h	4ème trim			82	
Tacaud					
VII a	4ème trim	1		91	
VII f	4ème trim	1		176	
VIII a	1er trim	2		4 804	
	2ème trim	2		19 918	
	3ème trim	2		1 300	
	4ème trim	3		36 490	
Tacaud norvégien					
IV	1er trim	young herr. S.		622	
VII a	4ème trim	ground fish S.		12	
VII g	4ème trim			364	
VII h	4ème trim			81	
Rouget					
VIII a	1er trim			337	
	2ème trim			569	
	4ème trim			168	
Grandin gris					
VII a	4ème trim			63	
VII e	4ème trim			21	
Grandin rouge					
VII a	4ème trim			14	
VII e	-			202	
VII f	-			175	
Dorade grise					
VIII a	2ème trim	1		147	127 écailles
	4ème trim	3		653	

région	saison	Nb d'échantillons		Nb poissons mesurés	Nb otolithes prélevés
		Nav. recherche	marché		
Limande		!	!	!	!
IV	1er trim	young herr. S.	!	2 097	!
VII a	4ème trim	ground fish sur.	!	115	!
VII e	4ème trim	!	!	39	!
VII f	4ème trim	!	!	10	!
Prie		!	!	!	!
VII a	4ème trim	ground fish S.	!	6	!
VII d	3ème trim	young fish Surv.	!	825	! 55 otolithes
VII f	4ème trim	ground fish S.	!	31	!
VIII a	1er trim	!	!	45	!
	2ème trim	!	!	183	!
	4ème trim	!	!	131	!
Sole		!	!	!	!
VII d	2ème trim	ground fish S.	!	848	!
	3ème trim	young fish S.	!	405	!
VIII a	1er trim	ground fish S.	!	912	!
	2ème trim	!	!	1 235	!
	3ème trim	!	!	300	!
	4ème trim	!	!	3 867	!
VII f	4ème trim	!	!	21	! 11 otolithes
VII g	4ème trim	!	!	6	!
Cardine		!	!	!	!
VII f	4ème trim	ground fish S.	!	7	!
VII h	4ème trim	!	!	13	!

Echantillonnage fait en 1977 au laboratoire ISTPM de
La Rochelle

1. Criée.

Merlu	:	7 524
Lieu noir	:	440 (72 en VIIa ; 368 en VIa)
Morue	:	241 (123 en VIa ; 75 en VIIa ; 44 en VIIb)
Merlan	:	615
Eglefin	:	494 (135 en VIIa ; 276 en VIIe, f)
Lingue	:	157
Sole	:	1 977
Cardine	:	295
Plie	:	74
Maquereau	:	1 124
Dorade	:	627
Baudroie	:	544
Bar	:	275
Chein	:	23

2. A la mer.

"Pelagia"	Merlu	:	3 850	(1 000 otolithes)
Courreaveurs	Sole	:	3 743	
	Bar	:	317	
	Plie	:	198	

Islande
(J. Magnusson)

Research work in Iceland on demersal species of fish was continued along the same lines as in 1976.

The collection of data on landed demersal fish, mainly cod, haddock and redfish, was carried out in various ports as in previous years. Three branches of the Marine Research Institute were in operation the whole year with the same tasks as in 1976. The sampling of data, particularly on cod was considerably increased by the whole year activities of the movable fishery inspectors, but their work was intensified during 1977. The research vessels "Bjarni Sæmundsson" and "Hafpor" were engaged in work on demersal species, particularly the latter.

The investigations on the distribution of mature cod just before and during the spawning period, as well as the investigation on the immature population of cod were carried out along the same lines as in the previous year.

A special research programme on the behaviour of cod in the area NW of Iceland implemented in 1976 was continued.

Research programmes on haddock and saithe were similar to that of cod.

During 1977 no special research cruises were carried out on redfish. The sampling on landed redfish was on the other hand increased.

One research cruise was carried out in order to locate the spawning area of Greenland halibut combined with research on other deep-sea species, particularly grenadier fish. Data were also collected on landed Greenland halibut.

Investigations on other demersal species were carried out in similar ways as in previous years. The number of fish sampled is shown in the attached tables.

Iceland - Sampling data for cod 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish		
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged	Tagged
Va	Jan.-March	256		43284	2746	298
"	"		58	14530	1789	-
"	Apr.-June	274		42451	1808	398
"	"		47	9279	1476	-
"	July-Sept.	264		41348	1753	-
"	"		126	19233	1001	-
"	Oct.-Dec.	202		24911	1913	561
"	"		34	5655	400	-
	Total	996	265	200734	12886	1257

Iceland - Sampling data for haddock 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish		
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged	Tagged
Va	Jan.-March	77		5993	505	2225
"	"		17	2997	704	-
"	Apr.- June	64		8935	927	-
"	"		4	-	400	-
"	July-Sept.	35		5013	-	-
"	"		6	837	299	-
"	Oct.-Dec.	61		6070	221	185
"	"		15	2509	200	-
	Total	237	42	32354	3256	2410

Iceland - Sampling data for saithe 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish		
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged	Tagged
Va	Jan.-March	12		1563		
"	"		8	1619	300	
"	Apr.-June	16		1020	76	
"	"		3	410	100	
"	July-Sept.	8		1276	-	
"	"		3	400	200	
"	Oct.-Dec.	10		802	222	
"	"		1	105	-	
Total		46	15	7195	898	

Iceland - Sampling data for whiting 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged
Va	Jan.-March	9		293	
"	Apr.-June	14		885	300
	Jul.-Sept.	3		35	
	Oct.-Dec.	5		513	
Total		31		1726	300

Iceland - Sampling data for redfish 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged
<u>S. marinus</u>					
Va	Jan.-March	57	3	4576	186
"	Apr.-June	3	7	1661	
"	July-Sept.	50	8	5921	
"	Oct.-Dec.	33	9	4915	100
Sub. total		143	27	17073	286
<u>S. mentella</u>					
Va	Jan.-March	40	1	1702	
"	Apr.-June	1		106	
"	Oct.-Dec.		1	129	
Sub. total		41	2	1937	
<u>S. viviparus</u>					
Va	Jan.-March	3		81	
"	July-Sept.	1		35	
"	Oct.-Dec.	1		43	
Sub. total		5		159	
Grand total		189	29	19169	286

Iceland - Sampling data for Argentina silus 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged
Va	Jan.-March	20		310	
"	Apr.-June	4		300	
"	July-Sept.	1		77	
"	Oct.-Dec.	1		10	
	Total	26		697	

Iceland - Sampling data for blue ling 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged
Va	Jan.-March	33		195	
"	Jul.-Sept.		1	180	
"	Oct.-Dec..	1	1	64	
	Total	34	2	439	

Iceland - Sampling data for plaice 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish		
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged	Tagged
Na	Jan.-March	27		456	586	1500
	Apr.-June	6		465	507	500
	July-Sept.	52		4295	1134	500
	Grand total	85		5216	2227	2500

Iceland - Sampling data for Greenland halibut 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish		
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged	Tagged
Va	Jan.-March	50	1	2397	486	
	Apr.-June	34	5	3490	1130	4752
	July-Sept.	6	4	1916		
	Oct.-Dec.		1	67		
	Total	90	11	7870	1616	4752

Iceland - Sampling data for roughhead grenadier 1977

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged
Va	Jan.-March	45		489	20
"	Apr.-June	9		224	101
	Total	54		713	121

Iceland - Sampling data. Various species

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish		
		Research vessels	Market samples	Measured	Aged	Tagged
<u>Catfish (A. lupus)</u>						
Va	Jan.-Dec.	11	5	1808	1595	1467
<u>Norway pout (Trisopterus esmarki)</u>						
Va	Jan.-Dec.	5	3	2165	640	
<u>Halibut (H. hippoglossus)</u>						
Va	Jan.-Dec.	10	-	112	554	583
<u>Roundnose grenadier</u>						
Va	Jan.-March	57	-	7980	200	
<u>Lumpsucker (Cyclopterus lumpus)</u>						
Va	Jan.-Sept.	32	21	3610	2269	

Irelande
(J.P. Hillis)

Cod, haddock, whiting and plaice were sampled at the ports shown in the Table, two ports being sampled in Divisions VIa and VIIa due to the disparity in age - composition between catches of the main species from different parts of the Divisions. Small scale studies on fish landed for fish meal and mink food were carried out at Lillybogs.

Plaice

Spring and autumn beam trawl surveys for juveniles were carried out in Division VIIa.

Sampling Data

Species	Division, Port	Season	No. of samples (all market)	No. of fish	
				Measured	Aged
COD	VIa Killybegs	1	10	484	259
		2	11	197	88
		3	2	30	30
		4	6	455	260
	Greencastle	2	2	104	38
		3	3	190	86
		4	-	-	-
	VIIa Howth	Total	34	1460	761
		1	7	488	255
		2	3	520	237
		3	5	587	216
	Kilmore Quay /Dunmore East	4	3	410	158
		1	1	45	45
		2	2	289	51
		4	5	660	151
	VIIbc Galway	Total	26	2999	1113
		1	5	364	213
		4	2	233	233
	VIIg-k Castletownbere	Total	7	597	446
		(all 4)	3	264	168
	OVERALL	TOTAL	70	5320	2488
HADDOCK	VIa Killybegs	1	5	962	336
		2	13	1288	140
		3	8	817	532
		4	4	575	144
	Greencastle	3	3	172	88
		Total	33	3814	1240
	VIIbc Galway	1	4	271	224
		2	1	45	45
		3	1	47	47
		4	1	63	59
	VIIg-k Castletownbere	Total	7	426	375
		Total (all 2)	3	173	157
	OVERALL	TOTAL	43	4413	1772

Sampling Data

Species	Division, Port	Season	No. of samples (all market)	No. of fish	
				Measured	Aged
WHITING	VIa Killybegs	1	2	488	104
		2	8	1291	81
		3	8	1465	180
		4	2	278	67
	VIa Greencastle	1	2	550	88
		Total	<u>22</u>	<u>4072</u>	<u>520</u>
	VIIa Howth	1	2	303	101
		2	2	547	115
		3	4	1250	85
		4	2	906	122
		Total	<u>10</u>	<u>3006</u>	<u>423</u>
	VIIbc Galway	1	2	239	149
		3	1	514	132
		4	2	592	116
		Total	<u>5</u>	<u>1345</u>	<u>397</u>
	OVERALL	TOTAL	<u>37</u>	<u>8423</u>	<u>1340</u>
PLAICE	VIa Killybegs	1	6	Male	Female
		2	3	429	499
		3	2	596	471
		4	2	104	108
				281	164
	Greencastle	1	1	145	159
		2	1	136	167
		3	6	1132	1173
		Total	<u>21</u>	<u>2823</u>	<u>2741</u>
	VIIa Howth	1	1	247	167
		2	2	72	256
		3	5	568	638
		4	2	208	186
	Kilmore Quay /Dunmore East	1	1	92	39
		2	2	587	866
		3	3	163	254
		4	4	289	281
		Total	<u>20</u>	<u>2226</u>	<u>2687</u>

Sampling Data

Species	Division, Port	Season	No. of samples (all market)	No. of fish			
				Measured	Aged	Male	Female
PLAICE	VIIbc Galway	1 2 3 4	3 1 2 3	152	197	59	97
				51	88	45	66
				238	236	57	61
				244	227	96	135
	VIIgk Castletownbere	Total (all 4)	9	685	748	257	359
				40	182	40	153
	OVERALL	TOTAL	51	5774	6358	1454	1925

Norvège
(C.J. Rørvik)

Sub-areas I and II

The research activities at sea were nearly the same in 1977 as the last previous years. The distribution and abundance of young cod and haddock were studied with two research vessels in the Barents Sea in January–February. In February–March the concentrations of mature Arcto-Norwegian cod were charted in Lofoten. In April–May investigations of cod larvae and post-larvae were carried out in Lofoten. In August–September the annual international 0-group fish survey was carried out in the Barents Sea and adjacent waters. In October–November the distribution and abundance of cod, haddock, redfish and blue whiting were investigated in the Bear Island – West Spitsbergen area.

Tagging experiments of the major roundfish species continued. In March–April mature cod were tagged in Lofoten. In June young saithe were tagged in the southern part of Division IIa. In August, cod, haddock and saithe were tagged in the coastal waters of northern Norway.

The abundance of 0-group saithe in the littoral zone was studied at selected localities along the Norwegian coast in September–October.

Market sampling of Recommendation 4 species continued. The sampling of Recommendation 2 fisheries continued.

Sub-area IV

The sampling of Recommendation 2 fisheries from Division IVa continued.

As a part of international surveys, the distribution and abundance of I- and II-group gadoids were studied in February–March, and 0-group gadoids and young sandeel were studied in June.

The influx of 0-group blue whiting to the Northern North Sea was investigated in November–December. Saithe were tagged in April and June along the Norwegian coast.

SPECIES AREA	Season	RESEARCH VESSEL					MARKET			
		Aged		Measured		Tagged	Aged		Measured	
		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish
<u>Cod</u>	1	25	2285	35	2923	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-	-	16	1475	32	12482
	3	5	467	25	1269	826	-	-	-	-
	4	-	-	-	-	-	21	2137	154	12931
II A	1	4	250	14	235	2964	22	1641	35	6976
	2	-	-	-	-	729	6	565	5	1590
	3	3	162	5	268	174	-	-	-	-
	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	3	791
II B	1	1	104	1	135					
	2	11	1200	56	54443					
	4	14	759	22	156					
IV A	1	4	64	-	-				70	210
	2	-	-	29	392				36	69
	3	-	-	-	-				29	40
	4	-	-	4	18				2	2
IV B	1	2	30	-	-					
	2	-	-	2	12					
	4	--	-	1	6					
<u>Saithe</u>	2	-	-	-	-	1000			1	59
	3	3	304	3	1400	1000			-	-
	4	-	-	-	-	-			7	706
	1	1	93	9	300	-	7	812	11	1865
II A	2	4	400	4	2187	3030	12	1395	12	4257
	3	1	101	1	486	1000	1	120	2	371
	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	240	2	429
	1	2	192	1	175	-	2	224	44	306
IV A	2	4	399	17	1481	1900	-	-	10	46
	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	405
	4	-	-	8	57	-	-	-	16	105

SPECIES AREA	Season	RESEARCH VESSEL					MARKET			
		Aged		Measured		Tagged	Aged		Measured	
		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish
<u>Haddock</u>	1	14	992	32	3973	-				
I	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	665	7	545
	3	2	114	2	300	300	-	-	-	-
	4	-	-	-	-	-	10	1082	82	4816
II A	1	1	101	15	580	-	3	148	7	254
	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	114
	3	6	307	7	905	900	1	85	7	40
	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	6	301
II B	1	-	-	2	10					
	2	-	-	9	50					
	3	-	-	2	12					
	4	-	-	8	98					
IV A	1	5	343	26	2266				41	832
	2	-	-	37	1688				48	569
	3	-	-	-	-				23	431
	4	1	81	9	1281				28	953
IV B	1	3	179	3	485					
	2	1	141	4	128					
	4	-	-	1	34					
<u>Whiting</u>	1	-	-	1	7					
II a										
IV A	1	5	272	18	1021				101	3179
	2	-	-	5	157				11	149
	3	-	-	-	-				4	25
	4	-	-	7	204				6	154
IV B	1	5	220	13	1247					
	2	1	60	3	52					
	3	-	-	-	-					
	4	-	-	1	38					

SPECIES AREA	Season	RESEARCH VESSEL				MARKET				
		Aged		Measured		Tagged	Aged		Measured	
		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish
<u>Redfish</u>	1			39	4001					
I	2								1	77
II a	1			17	971					
II b	1			2	123					
	2			4	40					
	3			5	666					
	4			14	1337					
IV a	1			1	67					
	4								1	12
<u>Long rough dab</u>	1									
I	1			24	4388					
II a	1			3	62					
II b	1			1	44					
	2			5	1218					
	3			2	443					
	4			17	3088					
IV a	1			4	359					
	2			6	154					
	4			3	95					
IV b	1			2	142					
	2			3	106					

SPECIES AREA	Season	RESEARCH VESSEL					MARKET			
		Aged		Measured		Tagged	Aged		Measured	
		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish
<u>Greenland halibut</u>	1	7	80	2	2				-	-
I	2	-	-	-	-				6	639
	4	-	-	-	-				1	103
II B	3			1	25				-	-
	4			10	266				-	-
<u>Ling</u>	1	-	-	1	3				-	-
II A	2	-	-	-	-				3	577
	3	-	-	-	-				17	2525
IV A	2	-	-	-	-				1	22
	3	-	-	-	-				9	2838
<u>Blue ling</u>										
V b	4	-	-	-	-		1	116	-	-
<u>Tusk</u>										
I	1	-	-	1	3				-	-
II A	1	-	-	3	7				-	-
	2	-	-	-	-				3	378
	3	-	-	-	-				14	3874
IV A	3	-	-	-	-				6	2566
<u>Sandeel</u>	2	-	-	32	1318				4	405
IV A	3	-	-	-	-				3	299
IV B	2	-	-	5	327				3	300

SPECIES AREA	Season	RESEARCH VESSEL					MARKET			
		Aged		Measured		Tagged	Aged		Measured	
		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish		No. of samples	No. of fish	No. of samples	No. of fish
Norway pout										
I	1			3	475					
II A	1			3	105				4	410
IV A	1	8	174	31	2972		1	76	41	4115
	2	2	27	23	823		1	27	51	4741
	3	1	21	-	-		2	64	33	3127
	4	5	143	12	1173		2	58	28	2323
IV B	1	2	31	4	339					
	4	1	29	1	117					
Blue whiting										
I	1			4	9					
II A	1	-	-	4	44				7	639
	2	-	-	-	-				17	1012
	3	-	-	-	-				5	254
	4	-	-	-	-				1	50
II B	2			2	252					
	4			14	1394					
IV A	1	-	-	1	111				5	498
	2	-	-	-	-				25	2295
	3	-	-	-	-				6	412
	4	-	-	16	1216				9	713
Silver smelt										
I	1			2	6					
II A	1	-	-	4	35		4	356	10	875
	2	-	-	-	-		3	275	4	247
	3	-	-	-	-		5	303	7	410
	4	-	-	-	-		-	-	1	50
IV A	2	-	-	-	-		-	-	9	437
	3	-	-	1	27		1	78	3	150
	4	-	-	4	199		-	-	7	140

Pays Bas
(J.F. de Veen)

Travail en mer.

Le "Tridens" a participé à 24 campagnes dans la région de la Comité dont 11 ont été consacrés au travail concernant la Commission des Poissons Demersaux.

Les navires "Stern" et "Schollevaar" ont faites ensemble 20 voyages scientifiques consacrés aux recherches demersales dans les estuaires Neerlandais.

Les navires "Stern", "Schollevaar" et "Tridens" ont faites deux voyages ensemble en avril et en septembre-octobre pour l'analyse des stocks de la sole, plie, limande, gadidés, crevette grise et autres organismes dans les nurseries de la Belgique, les Pays-Bas et la République Fédérale de l'Allemagne en collaboration avec les collègues Belges et Allemands.

Le navire "Rose Marie" a fait une voyage scientifique en mai pour estimer l'abondance du recrutement des nouvelles classes d'âge des poissons demersaux en Mer d'Irlande.

Travail au Laboratoire

Plie

L'analyse des stocks au moyen des échantillons au marché et au bateaux de recherche courant les différentes sous-populations dans la Mer du Nord était continuée avec l'accent sur le premier trimestre, la saison de ponte. Discarding des poissons et les chances de survie avait été étudié au bord des navires commerciaux.

Sole

L'analyse des stocks au moyen des échantillons au marché et au bord des bateaux de recherche dans des localités diverses de la Mer du Nord, de la Mer d'Irlande et du Golfe de Gascogne était continuée.

L'abondance du recrutement des nouvelles classes d'âge dans la Mer d'Irlande a été étudié pendant une voyage scientifique au printemps.

La classe d'âge de 1974 se manifestait comme pauvre en recrutement. En contraste la classe d'âge 1975 était bonne et l'analyse des recherches dans les nurseries réalisées pendant la campagne internationale de la Belgique, les Pays-Bas et l'Allemagne occidentale montrait que la classe d'âge 1976 est très abondante.

Limande

Pendant la campagne internationale pour étudier l'abondance du recrutement la structure d'âge de la population de la limande de la Mer du Nord était analysée.

Morue, Eglefin, Merlan et Lieu noir

L'analyse des stocks des gadidés était continuée.

La "Tridens" a participé en 1977 à l'"International Young Herring Survey" avec collecte de données sur les gadidés de premier âge en février et en juin à une campagne pour estimer l'abondance des gadidés de 0-groupe pendant la phase pélagique.

1977 Echantillonnage Plie

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IIIa	2 ^{ème} trim.	1	2	162	265
	4 ^{ème} trim.	1	1	2 492	191
IVb	1 ^{er} trim.	-	105	-	7 332
	2 ^{ème} trim.	10	12	1 399	1 246
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	15	-	953
	4 ^{ème} trim.	10	14	888	1 813
IVc	1 ^{er} trim.	-	25	-	1 737
	2 ^{ème} trim.	3	3	481	457
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	5	-	361
	4 ^{ème} trim.	9	14	2 467	1 618
VIIa	1 ^{er} trim.	-	-	-	-
	2 ^{ème} trim.	8	-	1 134	502
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
Waddenzee	2 ^{ème} trim.	12	-	2 073	318
Neérlandaise	4 ^{ème} trim.	12	-	3 161	448
Zeeland estuaire	2 ^{ème} trim.	8	-	755	292
	4 ^{ème} trim.	7	-	1 649	331
Total annuel		81	196	16 661	17 864

1977 Echantillonnage Sole

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IIIa	4 ^{ème} trim.	1	-	46	5
IVb	1 ^{er} trim.	-	14	-	700
	2 ^{ème} trim.	8	56	84	2 909
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	17	-	850
	4 ^{ème} trim.	10	13	584	898
IVc	1 ^{er} trim.	-	8	-	400
	2 ^{ème} trim.	3	63	179	3 300
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	10	-	500
	4 ^{ème} trim.	9	7	1 087	608
VIIa	1 ^{er} trim.	-	4	-	200
	2 ^{ème} trim.	8	18	1 367	1 498
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
Golfe de Gascogne	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	1	-	50
Waddenzee	2 ^{ème} trim.	10	-	702	150
Néerlandaise	4 ^{ème} trim.	11	-	505	139
Zeeland estuaire	2 ^{ème} trim.	6	-	352	179
	4 ^{ème} trim.	6	-	504	72
Total annuel		72	211	5 410	12 458

1977 Echantillonnage Limande

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IIIa	2 ^{ème} trim.	1	-	69	74
	4 ^{ème} trim.	1	-	732	56
IVb	1 ^{er} trim.	-	-	-	-
	2 ^{ème} trim.	10	-	1 586	686
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	10	-	1 156	669
IVc	1 ^{er} trim.	-	-	-	-
	2 ^{ème} trim.	3	-	450	270
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	9	-	2 972	655
VIIa	1 ^{er} trim.	-	-	-	-
	2 ^{ème} trim.	8	-	1 518	380
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
Waddenzee Néerlandaise	2 ^{ème} trim.	4	-	279	50
	4 ^{ème} trim.	11	-	2 581	269
Zeeland estuaire	2 ^{ème} trim.	3	-	70	33
	4 ^{ème} trim.	6	-	1 346	81
Total annuel		66	-	12 759	3 223

1977 Echantillonnage Lieu noir

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IV	1 ^{er} trim.	1	9	660	487
	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	6	429	285
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	3	323	141
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	3	138	387
VII	1 ^{er} trim.	-	1	55	55
	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	-	-
Total annuel		1	22	1 854	1 156

1977 Echantillonnage Eglefin

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IV	1 ^{er} trim.	7	6	1 329	589
	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	4	1 352	200
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	6	1 484	300
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	5	953	175
Total annuel		7	21	5 118	1 264

1977 Echantillonnage Merlan

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IIIa	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	3	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	679	-
IV	1 ^{er} trim.	8	8	2 886	685
	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	7	4 632	350
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	5	3 115	250
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	6	6 037	298
Total annuel		8	26	17 302	1 583

1977 Echantillonnage Morue

Région	Saison	Nombre d'échantillons pour détermination de l'âge seulement		Nombre de poissons	
		bateau de recherche	marché	mesurés	d'otolithes prélevés
IIIa	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	36	-
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	-	130	-
IV	1 ^{er} trim.	6	11	2 421	833
	2 ^{ème} trim.	-	11	3 638	546
	3 ^{ème} trim.	-	10	2 829	497
	4 ^{ème} trim.	-	10	3 868	529
Total annuel		6	42	12 922	2 405

Pologne

(W.Cieglewicz, J.Janusz)

SAMPLING DATA FOR COD, HADDOCK, SAITHE, WHITING,
GREENLAND HALIBUT IN 1977

Area	Season Quarters	No. of Samples		No. of Fish	
		Research vessels	Commercial vessels	Measured	Aged
<u>COD</u>					
IIIb	3	-	7	6 243	416
<u>HADDOCK</u>					
IV	1	-	7	1 670	700
	2	-	7	2 134	796
<u>SAITHE</u>					
IV	1	-	11	5 000	1 100
	2	-	16	6 000	1 600
<u>WHITING</u>					
IV	1	-	6	1 767	600
<u>GREENLAND HALIBUT</u>					
IIa	3	-	1	221	100
IIb	3	-	4	3 353	388

Portugal
(M. Lima Dias)

Pendant l'année 1977, notre Instituto nacional de Investigacao das Pescas a poursuivi les études sur les échantillons de débarquement de merlu, débarqués par des bateaux commerciaux (chalutiers et artisans) sur la côte portugaise.

Les données enregistrées sont portées dans le tableau ci-après.

Echantillonnage de merlu (*Merluccius merluccius* L.) dans la côte portugaise (région IX du CIEM) pendant l'année 1977 (bateaux de pêche industrielle (chalutiers) et artisans (ligne et hameçon et filets soulevés).

Région CIEM	Saison	Nº des Échantillons		Nº des Poissons		
		Bateau de recherche	Marché	Mesuré	dont âge déterminé	Classe suivant race
IX	1 ^{er} trimestre	-	22	2056	-	-
IX	2 ^{ème} trimestre	-	26	2789	-	-
IX	3 ^{ème} trimestre	-	15	779	-	-
IX	4 ^{ème} trimestre	-	39	3195	-	-
		-	102	8819	-	-

Royaume-Uni
(England and Wales)
(A. C. Burd)

Sampling. The areas where research vessel samples have been taken are indicated. Samples include material for ICES Young Fish Trawl Survey, other recruitment studies, and biological investigations.

COD

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
Arctic 101 + 102 + 113		254	42	864	2 143
Iceland 111		1		89	-
Greenland 114		18	2	487	299
Faroe 105		18	2	674	615
North Sea 104	+	956	117	923	6 558
Westerly 106A		54	8	823	695
Irish Sea 107A	+	107	15	927	2 172
Bristol Channel 107F	+	7		434	77
S E Ireland 107G		3		444	101
Rockall 106B		4		417	92
E English Channel 107D,E	+	54	6	460	125
FREEZER Arctic 101 + 102 + 113		62	30	572	-
Rockall 106B		1		240	-

HADDOCK

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
Arctic 101+ 102 + 113		148	21	385	1 193
Iceland 111		1		124	-
Faroe 105		15	2	640	40
North Sea 104	+	471	57	906	2 630
Westerly 106A		50	6	957	764
Irish Sea 107A	+	15	1	209	114
Bristol Channel 107F		1		81	-
S E Ireland 107G		1		82	-
Rockall 106B		24	2	721	329
E Greenland 114		2		206	-
FREEZER Arctic 101 + 102 + 113		16	2	296	-

SAITHE

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
Arctic 101 + 102 + 113		45	3	891	620
Faroe 105	+	18	1	492	367
North Sea 104	+	71	7	121	781
Westerly 106A	+	71	8	167	927
Rockall 106B		2		167	12
FREEZER Arctic 101 + 102 + 113		7		630	-
North Sea 104		1		77	-

PLAICE

Area	No of Samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
Arctic 101 + 102 + 113		4	785	-	
North Sea 104	+	329	58 072	4 163	
Irish Sea 107A	+	121	21 379	1 584	
Bristol Channel 107F	+	47	8 395	276	
S E Ireland 107G		8	1 725	95	
E English Channel 107D		72	5 125	648	
W English Channel 107E		156	11 179	1 706	

WHITING

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
North Sea 104	+	513	39 513	1 980	
Irish Sea 107A	+	133	16 754	1 492	
Bristol Channel 107F	+	11	1 479	100	
S E Ireland 107G		5	533	25	
Westerly 106A		3	258	27	
E English Channel 107D		27	3 438	-	
W English Channel 107E		103	10 889	537	

SOLE

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
North Sea 104	+	65	12 078	201	
Irish Sea 107A	+	62	11 009	417	
Bristol Channel 107F	+	38	4 681	108	
S E Ireland 107G		3	692	54	
Westerly 106A		1	255	-	
E English Channel 107D		78	5 399	554	
W English Channel 107E		161	12 292	828	

TURBOT

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
North Sea 104		2	140	-	

HAKE

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
North Sea 104		14	1 851	-	
Irish Sea 107A		42	5 928	-	
Westerly 106A		53	7 977	-	
Bristol Channel 107F		9	1 849	-	
S E Ireland 107G		4	749	-	

SPURDOG

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
North Sea 104		112	9 537	-	
Westerly 106A		53	5 046	-	

SKATES AND RAYS

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
Westerly 106A		24	1 922	-	
Irish Sea 107A	+	108	13 079	-	
Bristol Channel 107F	+	21	3 533	-	
S E Ireland 107G		9	1 476	-	
North Sea 104		43	2 396	-	

LEMON SOLE

Area	No of samples		No of fish		
	Research Vessels	Market Samples	Measured	Aged	Racial Invest
North Sea 104	+				
W English Channel 107E		152	11 859	480	
Bristol Channel 107F		28	2 623	-	
Irish Sea 107A	+				

Release of English tagged fish in ICES areas during 1977

Species	Region							Total
	104A	104B	104C	107D	107E	107A	106A	
Cod	121	1 825	1 300	521	574	292	132	4 765
Plaice	-	-	544	-	-	-	-	544
Sole	-	2	956	-	-	392	-	1 350
Whiting	-	1 169	697	-	-	-	-	1 866
Haddock	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Coalfish	7	-	30	-	-	-	67	104
Spurdog fish	15	90	-	-	-	-	-	105
Turbot	-	-	-	-	-	645	-	645
TOTAL	143	3 097	3 527	521	574	1 329	199	9 390

(Scotland)

(R. Jones)

1. Research vessel activities.

FRV "Explorer" participated in the 1977 International Young Herring Survey in feb-mar and also carried out surveys of pre-recruit cod, haddock and whiting in the North Sea (november) and at Faroe (june-july).

FRV "Clupea" carried out a pre-recruit gadoid survey off the west coast of Scotland during november and december while FRV "Mara" carried out a pre-recruit plaice surveys off the east coast of Scotland in november.

FRV "Explorer" participated in an internationally co-ordinated North Sea survey of 0 group gadoids during the pelagic phase of their life history in june and july while FRV "Scotia" carried out a similar survey in october.

Numbers of fish measured and aged are shown in table 1.

2. Routine monitoring of demersal fish landings.

Landings of cod, haddock, whiting, saithe, plaice, lemon sole and megrim were sampled to obtain size and length data for all areas fished by Scottish seiners, trawlers, light trawlers and nephrops trawlers. Length data were also collected for landings of hake from the Clyde.

Numbers of fish measured and aged are shown in table 1.

3. Measurement of discarding rates.

Forty-five trips were made on Scottish commercial fishing vessels to determine the numbers of haddock and whiting discarded at each age. Some length frequency data were also collected for other species.

4. Sandeel and pout sampling.

Sandeels were more comprehensively sampled in 1977 than in previous years. 40 samples, all from the Shetland area were analysed, 382 fish being measured, weighed and aged, and 10 725 fish measured. Owing to an increase in the sandeel fishery at Shetland, the Norway pout fishery was smaller than in 1976 and fewer samples were analysed.

5. Tagging experiments.

Two commercial fishing vessels were chartered during the year to carry out tagging operations. In June, FV "Scotia" worked in the North Minch where 177 haddock, 876 plaice, 37 whiting, 66 cod and 69 lemon sole were released. FV "Jenmar" worked in the South Minch in September and released 657 haddock, 216 plaice, 257 cod and 113 lemon sole.

FRV "Mara" carried out a tagging experiment in the Moray Firth in Feb. during which 1 867 plaice and 80 lemon sole were released.

6. Aquarium experiments.

Aquarium experiments on female haddock indicated that those maintained on low ration (< 5K cal/day) spawned less frequently and produced fewer eggs than well-fed controls.

7. Field studies in west coast Sea Lochs.

Experiments to examine the natural movements and migrations of fish in west coast Sea Lochs have continued, and have confirmed that juvenile cod occupy a home range of limited extent during their first two years of life. Studies have also been made of the stomach contents of these fish and in particular the intake of a particular prey item, the hermit crab *Pagurus bernhardus*, has been examined intensively.

Further studies have been performed on the sensory capacities of cod. In particular, visual contrast perception, directional hearing in the vertical plane, and the sensitivity of fish to dissolved amino acids have been examined.

TABLE 1 Number of Fish Measured and Aged in 1977 (1 : market sampling data ; 2 : research vessel data).

Area	Cod Meas Aged	Haddock Meas Aged	Whiting Meas Aged	Saithe Meas Aged	Hake Meas Aged
North Sea 1) 2)	45115 12983	145137 16297	89519 14034	12151 4372	- -
	1268 420	16604 2422	49794 1706	79 -	248 -
West Coast 1) 2)	7009 2942	39100 6914	37733 6184	10134 2299	3605 -
	73 -	2399 -	5768 -	55 -	182 -
Faroe 1) 2)	5660 -	13945 2818	4108 1585	3791 2412	- -
	1439 -	15691 -	369 -	615 -	- -
Iceland 1) 2)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
White Sea 1) 2)	2741 -	1150 839	- -	- -	- -
	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -

Area	T.esmarkii		Sandeel		Plaice		L. Sole		Megrime	
	Meas	Aged	Meas	Aged	Meas	Aged	Meas	Aged	Meas	Aged
North Sea										
1)	2544	437	10725	882	44401	-	53985	-	11836	-
2)	5149	304	642	195	683	-	649	-	86	-
West Coast										
1)	204	61	-	-	15188	-	7564	-	334	-
2)	1450	117	3359	451	148	-	154	-	114	-
Faroe										
1)	-	-	-	-	7362	-	15776	-	-	-
2)	7069	375	-	-	225	-	1448	-	9	-

Suède
(o. Hagström)

Sampling Data COD

Area	Season	Type of fish	No. of Samples		No. of Fish	
			Research Vessel	Market	Measured	Aged
Kattegat	II	Imm., ad.	11	18	1929	389
	III-IV	Ad.			2728	653
	III	"			1893	
	V	"			1187	
	VII	"			1020	250
	VIII-X	"			2575	654
	IX	"			813	
	XI	"			1058	250
Skagerrak	II	Ad.	11	13	803	
	II	Imm., ad.			163	122
	III-IV	Ad.			1197	383
	IV	"			263	
	IV	Imm., ad.			2133	387
	VI	Ad.			1007	
	VIII-X	"			503	324
	X	"			282	
	XI	"			457	

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Research Vessel Surveys 1977

Area	Season	Objectives
Kattegat, Skagerrak	II	Investigation on young gadoides
"	III-IV	Investigation on gadoides
"	IV	"
"	VIII-X	"

Sampling Data WHITING

Area	Season	Type of fish	No. of Samples		No. of Fish	
			Research Vessel	Market	Measured	Aged
Kattegat	II	Imm., ad.	10		1309	138
	III-IV	Ad.	8		682	253
	III	"			734	
	V	"			403	
	VIII-X	"	6		709	159
	IX	"			402	
	XI	"			337	
Skagerrak	II	Imm., ad.	11		1105	199
	III-IV	Ad.	8		650	183
	IV	Imm., ad.	13		792	160
	VIII-X	Ad.	2		256	63

Sampling Data HADDOCK

Area	Season	Type of fish	No. of Samples		No. of Fish	
			Research Vessel	Market	Measured	Aged
Kattegat	II	Imm., ad.	7		118	57
	III-IV	Ad.	3		171	81
	III	"			29	
	V	"			43	
	VIII-X	"			239	
	XI	"				
Skagerrak	II	Ad.			822	
	II	Imm., ad.	11		449	223
	III-IV	Ad.	8		371	131
	IV	"			347	
	IV	Imm., ad.	10		194	72
	VI	Ad.			106	
	VIII-X	"	4		312	96
	XI	"			293	

U R S S
(S.G. Fedorov)

I. Data collected in the Barents, Norwegian, North and Greenland seas.

In 1977, as in previous years, data were collected to characterize the abundance, age-length composition and distribution of redfish, cod, haddock, saithe, Greenland halibut and other demersal fishes observed in the ICES zone. Figures in tables 1-8 show the volume of data collected by areas. Samples were collected from boards the research and scouting vessels ; no racial investigations were performed.

Investigations towards refining the assessment of the state of main commercial fishes were continued both by means of the young fish determination and estimates of absolute abundance. The survival conditions of young fishes at different stages of development were studied ; ichthyoplankton was gathered and analysed ; fisheries forecasts for different terms were compiled ; the forecasting technique was improved.

Sampling data for cod

Table 1

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			Measured	Aged
the Barents Sea	I	12	97000	3189
	II	18	78307	4187
	III	16	62854	4154
	IV	9	46506	3251
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	6	11695	1548
	II	4	47384	1596
	III	6	15578	1894
	IV	3	6858	838
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	6	2875	747
	II	9	2039	1226
	III	-	-	-
	IV	1	802	304
East Greenland	I	-	547	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for haddock

Table 2

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			Measured	Aged
the Barents Sea	I	7	47548	1599
	II	10	21109	2025
	III	12	36627	2036
	IV	7	33619	2209
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	-	155	-
	II	-	434	-
	III	3	227	24
	IV	-	416	-
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	14	1676	1539
	II	9	839	831
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	215	-
East Greenland	I	-	2	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for redfish

Table 3

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			Measured	Aged
the Barents Sea	I	-	27938	-
	II	2	5631	-
	III	3	5202	300
	IV	-	4976	-
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	3	12280	571
	II	6	18288	904
	III	15	44388	-
	IV	3	15150	-
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	2	6744	300
	II	3	10533	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	2	2286	-
East Greenland	I	7	24636	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for Greenland halibut

Table 4

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			Measured	Aged
the Barents Sea	I	-	1064	-
	II	-	221	-
	III	1	253	16
	IV	-	322	-
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	1	2442	300
	II	2	1603	601
	III	1	1375	242
	IV	1	3567	286
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	-	-	-
	II	-	11	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-
East Greenland	I	-	50	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for saithe

Table 5

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			measured	aged
the Barents Sea	I	-	47	-
	II	-	15	1
	III	-	30	-
	IV	-	30	-
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	-	4	1
	II	-	19	-
	III	-	12	-
	IV	-	-	-
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	3	2279	407
	II	2	575	423
	III	1	301	87
	IV	-	-	-
East Greenland	I	-	-	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for long rough dab

Table 6

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			measured	aged
the Barents Sea	I	-	7878	-
	II	1	13089	-
	III	4	20206	-
	IV	1	12853	-
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	-	-	-
	II	1	-	-
	III	3	-	-
	IV	3	-	-
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	-	-	-
	II	-	42	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-
East Greenland	I	-	-	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for plaice

Table 7

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			measured	aged
the Barents Sea	I	6	365	285
	II	4	1480	603
	III	7	6377	1314
	IV	-	3072	-
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	-	-	-
	II	-	2571	-
	III	-	6686	-
	IV	-	11404	-
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	-	-	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-
East Greenland	I	-	-	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

Sampling data for catfish

Table 8

Area	Season	No. of samples	No. of fish	
			measured	aged
the Barents Sea	I	3	3292	97
	II	1	1181	8
	III	4	1848	178
	IV	5	2113	64
the northwestern Barents Sea	I	-	456	-
	II	-	153	-
	III	3	2413	36
	IV	-	1440	-
the northwestern coast of Norway	I	-	33	-
	II	-	30	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	31	-
East Greenland	I	-	10	-
	II	-	-	-
	III	-	-	-
	IV	-	-	-

In 1977, the studies were continued in the North Sea on the abundance dynamics and on the state of the gadoid stocks.

The material on the gadoids was collected during the young herring trawling survey in January-February under the ICES Programme.

The composition of commercial catches was studied. The volume of biological material is given in the Table below.

Species	Nº of fish measured	age determination
Haddock	49 295	1534
Whiting	28 900	750
Saithe	17 800	650

II. Central east Atlantic.

In 1977 seven cruises were made to various regions of the Central east Atlantic.

Quantitative trawling surveys were conducted in order to determine the state of the fishery resources in the Central-east Atlantic. In addition, the routine oceanographic observations were made and the data for the biological analysis of the main fish species collected.

A total of 1 250 haulings were made and 1 200 stations occupied.

The material collected on the main fish species was as follows :

Species	N° of fish measured	Biological analysis	Age determination
<i>Pagellus coupei</i>	2 000	800	
<i>Dentex macrophthalmus</i>	1 700	500	
<i>Dentex congoensis</i>	4 000	900	
<i>Dentex angolensis</i>	1 200	1 100	1 250
<i>Dentex polli</i>	4 500	150	
<i>Pagellus acarne</i>	900	400	
<i>Pomadasysidae</i>	11 000	454	300

The minimum abundance and biomass of 36 fish species was determined. The sparids, *Dentex macrophthalmus*, *D. angolensis*, *Pagellus coupei*, as well as *Pomadasysidae* and *Sciaenidae* were predominant demersal fish species.

U S A

(M. P. Sissenwine)

A more complete report on USA demersal fish research is contained in the USA Research Report to the Annual Meeting of ICNAF, June 1978.

During 1977, the status of stocks of more than twenty species or species groups exploited along the Atlantic coast of the USA north of cape Hatteras was assessed. The demersal (at least partially demersal) fish stocks that were assessed are cod of the (1) gulf of Maine and (2) Georges Bank - southern New England area ; haddock of Georges Bank ; redfish of the gulf of Maine - George Bank area ; silver hake of (1) the gulf of Maine, (2) Georges Bank and (3) southern New England - mid-Atlantic area ; red hake of (1à Georges Bank and (2) southern New England- mid-Atlantic area ; pollock of Georges Bank - gulf of Maine Nova Scotia area ; helloworld flounder of (1) Georges Bank, (2) the cape Cod area (3) southern New England and (4) the mid-Atlantic area ; flounder except yellowtail for the USA Atlantic coast north of cape Hatteras ; scup, weakfish, and other finfish (excluding species already considered, menhaden and large pelagics) for the USA Atlantic coast north of cape Hatteras. Stock assesments were based on length samples of commercial landings, research vessel trawl surveys, and age determinations of both commercial and research vessel catches. Commercial sampling bottom trawl research survey and aging activity for 1977 is summarized in tables 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

The USA has continued research on the interactions of fish species. During 1977, a preliminary energy flow model of Georges Bank was formulated. Laboratory processing of about 17 000 stomachs of 17 fish species collected between 1973 and 1976 was completed. Most of these stomachs were of demersal species. Approximately 25 % of the samples are from young of the year fish. The length of the fish was recorded for each stomach. Specimen length was not recorded for stomach data collected between 1969-1972. This additional information should allow substantial improvement in our understanding of species interactions.

South of Cape Hatteras, recreational and commercial fisheries are prosecuted on the snapper-grouper species complex. Catch statistics are now being collected and research is being conducted on the life history and population dynamics of several species (black sea bass, red porgy vermilion snapper and red snapper, for example). Approximately 8 000 fish have been tagged. Resource survey cruises were conducted in 1977 and additional cruises are planned for 1978.

Marine research laboratories of individual states and universities also study demersal fish. These research programs tend to be oriented to coastal species. For example, the Division of Marine Fisheries of Massachusetts is conducting research on the movement, growth and mortality of winter flounder off the coast of Massachusetts.

Table 1 USA Commercial Landing Sampling Summary 1977

<u>Species</u>	<u>Samples^a</u>
Cod	166
Haddock	210
Pollock	48
Redfish	103
Whiting	60
Sea herring	373
Grey sole	9
American dab	16
Sand dab	8
Mackerel	15
Sea scallops	94
Blackback	89
Squid sp	42
Industrial	115
Butterfish	7
Fluke	58
Red hake	2
Scup	10
Tilefish	2
Menhaden	4
Surf clams	131
Ocean quahogs	6
Yellowtail	90
Lobster	8
Red crab	4
Jonah crab	1
Total	1671

a) The number of fish in each sample varies by species and market category.

Table 2. Fish Age Determinations During 1977.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>
Redfish	2032
Yellowtail	9587
Mackerel	1089
Cod	1824
Haddock	4183
Scallops	1600
Pollock	649
Goosefish	30
Scup	200
Fluke	2148
Silver Hake	3982
Blackback	916
Sea herring	7728
Alewives	1000
Red hake	8901
Total 45,869	

Table 3. Bottom Trawl Survey Cruises for 1977.

Vessel	Date	No. of stations	Area	Type of trawl
DELAWARE II (USA)	4 Jan - 10 Jan	24	Georges Bank	#36 Yankee
WIECZNO (Poland)	18 Feb - 26 Feb	30	Georges Bank	90' Herring
WIECZNO (Poland)	9 Mar - 15 Mar	28	Gulf of Maine	#36 Yankee
ANTON DOHRN (FRG)	11 Mar - 12 Mar	12	Upper Channel	180' Herring
ALBATROSS IV and DELAWARE II (USA)	19 Mar - 28 May	303	Gulf of Maine-Cape Hatteras	#41 Yankee
GORLITZ (GDR)	3 Mar- 8 Apr	110	S. New England	HG 600
ALBATROSS IV and DELAWARE II (USA)	27 Jul - 31 Aug	158	Gulf of Maine-Cape Hatteras	#36 Yankee
SUZUKI MARU (Japan)	20 Jul - 8 Aug	112	Mid-Atlantic	Japanese bottom off-bottom trawl
DELAWARE II (USA)	26 Sep - 15 Dec	425	Gulf of Maine-Cape Hatteras	#36 Yankee
ARGUS (USSR)	13 Nov - 25 Nov	42	Georges Bank	Hake 815