

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK NR33 0HT, ENGLAND

PROGRAMME 1992

CHARTER REPORT: FV JANET M and FV PROVIDENCE IV

STAFF: C T Macer
C G Brown

DURATION: 20.1.92.-1.2.92.

LOCALITY: Bridlington and Seahouses Area

AIM: To assess the catch and length compositions in hauls targeted on whiting, including landings and discards.

NARRATIVE:

Staff travelled to Bridlington on 20th January and work commenced with FV JANET M on 21st January. Fishing took place over the next four days. Staff returned to the Laboratory on 25th January and travelled to Seahouses on 28th January and work commenced with FV PROVIDENCE IV on 29th January until 31st January, staff returning to Lowestoft on 1st February.

RESULTS:

1. Fishing was carried out on a daily basis using the vessels normal rockhopper gears which had 90mm codends. It was left to the skippers to fish the grounds they thought might result in the highest catches of whiting and to decide on the duration of tow.
2. FV JANET M of Bridlington fished for 4 days between 6 and 14 miles off Flamborough Head at depths of between 28 and 31 fathoms, with the duration of the tow varying between 50 minutes and 2 hours. During 13 tows a total of 2745 kgs of whiting was landed representing 76% of the total landings, cod made up 9% and haddock 1%. The discard rate of the total weight caught was 36% for whiting, 1% for cod and 25% for haddock. The catch rate of landed whiting by FV JANET M was 174 kg per hour.
3. FV PROVIDENCE IV of Seahouses fished for 3 days between 5 and 20 miles off the Northumberland coast between Seahouses and Boulmer at depths of between 21 and 56 fathoms with the duration of tow varying between 53 minutes and 2 hours 40 minutes. During 9 tows a total of 373 kgs of whiting was landed representing 38% of the total landings, cod made up 20% and haddock 31%. The discard rate of the total weight caught was 45% for whiting, 4% for cod and 52% for haddock. The catch rate of landed whiting by FV PROVIDENCE IV was 19 kgs per hour.
4. The results of these charters indicate that a directed whiting fishery would have been possible off the Yorkshire coast in January this year while off the Northumberland

coast it was unlikely whiting were abundant enough to be caught without a significant by-catch.

	WEIGHT(whole) Kgs		MEAN LENGTH cms	
	Landed	Discarded	Landed	Discarded
JANET M (Hours fished 15h 44m)				
Whiting	2745	1535	30.4	25.4
Cod	318	4	46.0	29.2
Haddock	30	10	31.6	28.9
Other Finfish	349	-	-	-
Shellfish	121	-	-	-
PROVIDENCE IV (Hours fished 19h 37m)				
Whiting	373	311	30.9	24.3
Cod	202	8	41.3	33.5
Haddock	317	346	31.9	27.7
Other Finfish	76	-	-	-
Shellfish	25	-	-	-

We would like to thank Skipper C Traves and Skipper J Dawson and their crews for their help. Thanks also to Mr R Banks (NFFO) for help in arranging the charters.

C T Macer
20 March 1992

INITIALLED:JGP

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List
C T Macer
C G Brown