MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1976 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV TELLINA: CRUISE 6

(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF:

K Brander
T Williams

DURATION

Left Lowestoft   0730 h   20 April

Arrived Lowestoft   1230 h   3 May

All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY: East Coast

AIMS:

1.   To repeat previous groundfish surveys in the area between $51°30'N$ and $53°N$.

2.   To collect length compositions and otoliths of plaice, sole, cod and ray as a supplement to the market sampling programme.

3.   To test new high-speed pelagic young fish trawl.

NARRATIVE:

TELLINA sailed from Lowestoft at 0730 h 20 April but strong winds prevented fishing and she returned to port. Three trawl stations were worked from Lowestoft on 21 April and on the following day TELLINA sailed for Ipswich, carrying out one trawl haul on the way. Strong N.E. winds kept the vessel in Ipswich until 28 April and the southern part of the survey grid was completed by 30 April. TELLINA anchored off Sizewell on the night of 30 April and the remainder of the grid was finished on 1 May. The bobbin groundrope was replaced with a bosom and four trawl stations were carried out from Lowestoft on 2 and 3 May in order to catch large samples for length measurements and otoliths. TELLINA returned to Lowestoft at 1230 h 3 May in freshening S.W. winds.

RESULTS:

17 standard one hour groundfish survey trawl stations were carried out, completing Aim 1.

All cod, plaice, sole and rays were measured and otolith samples taken. In addition samples of whiting and pout whiting were measured. A total of 175 plaice, 96 soles, 25 cod and one lemon sole were otolithed, but only 33 rays were caught and measured. All other species caught were identified and numbers recorded.

Aim 3 had been carried out on a previous cruise.

SEEN IN DRAFT   A Pearson

INITIALLED   AJL

K Brander
8 May 1976

DISTRIBUTION   Basic List   K Brander
                              T Williams