

„SOLEA“
Cruise 708
REPORT
17.08. – 31.08.2015

Personnel

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Objectives

1. Participation in the ICES co-ordinated “International **B**eam **T**rawl **S**urvey” in the North Sea
2. Determination of temperature and salinity in the area of investigation

Narrative (Fig. 1)

FRV “Solea” left the port of Cuxhaven on 17th August. Working started the next day by sampling the ICES statistical rectangle 39F7 to 39F4 followed by the offshore stations from South to North. On the morning of 25th August an unplanned break of two days was required in the Danish harbor of Esbjerg due to increasing wind. On the evening of the 27th FRV “Solea” disembarked the port and the research was continued in the rectangles 40F7 and 41F7 on the next morning. Under good weather conditions the coastal stations were sampled thereafter from North to South. At noon on the 30st August the final haul of the survey was conducted. The cruise ended the next morning in Cuxhaven and the scientific staff returned to Hamburg.

Results (Fig. 2 – 4)

A total of 63 valid hauls with a standard duration of 30 minutes were conducted with the 7m beam trawl. At all 63 stations salinity and temperature were measured.

The distribution of species composition shows the usual geographic pattern with dab as the most frequent fish species, followed by plaice, grey gurnard and lemon sole.

Towards the North of the investigation area the importance of dab in the biomass decreases. Here, plaice is only occurring sporadically with some larger (up to 50 cm) individuals.



Dipl.-Biol. K. Panten

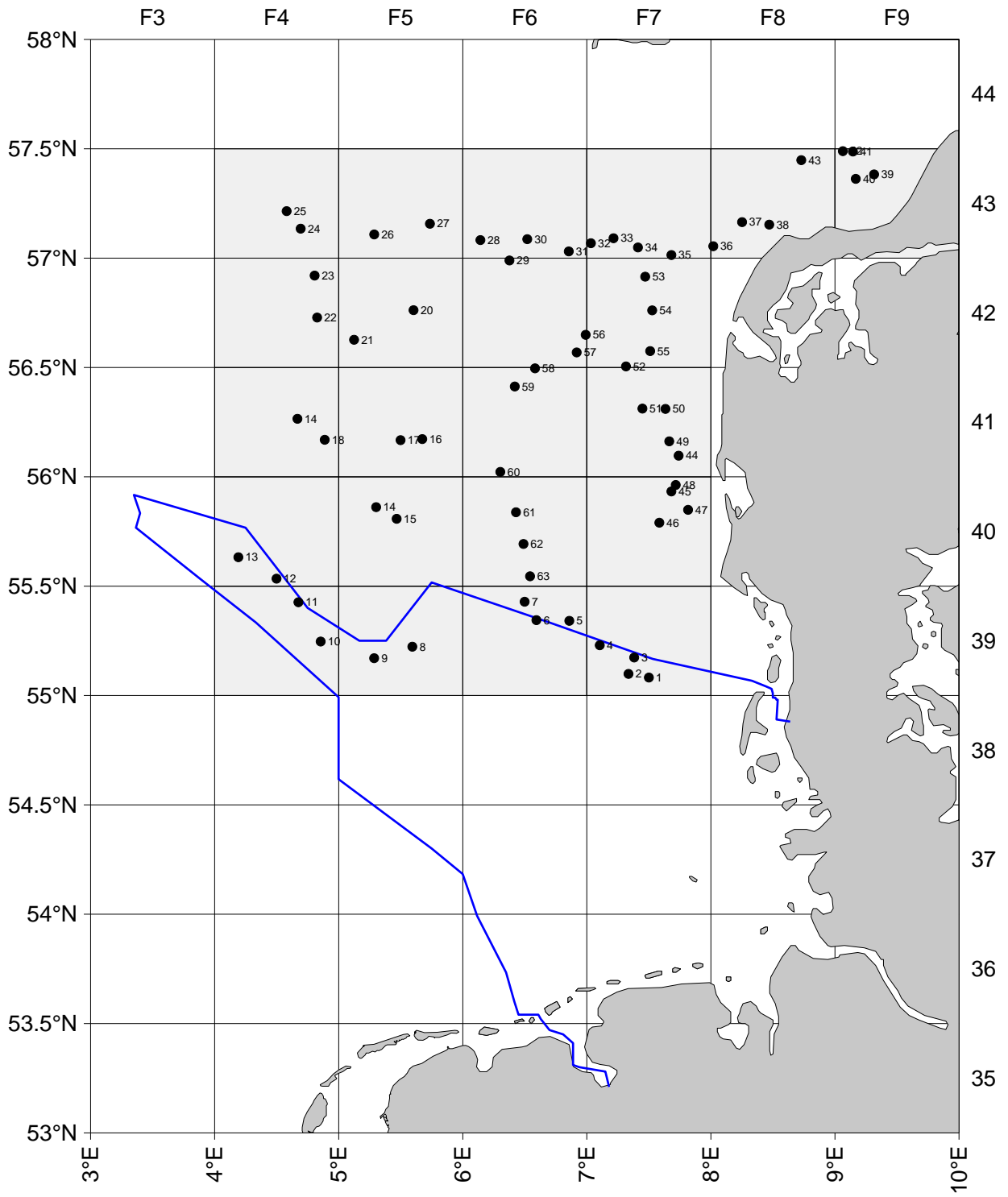


Fig. 1: "Solea", Cruise no. 708 , Haul positions and area of investigation

Catch composition in kg and length distribution during Beam Trawl Survey

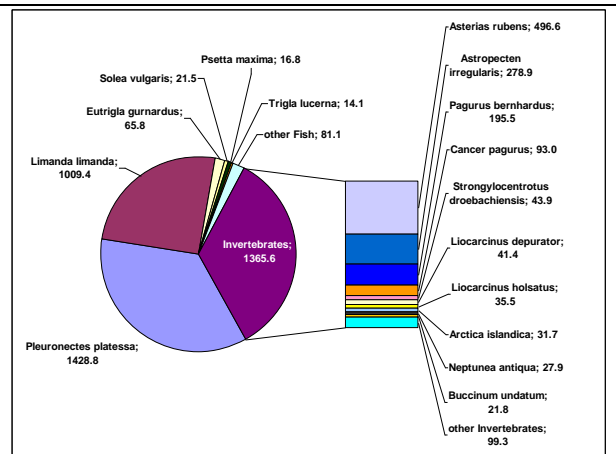
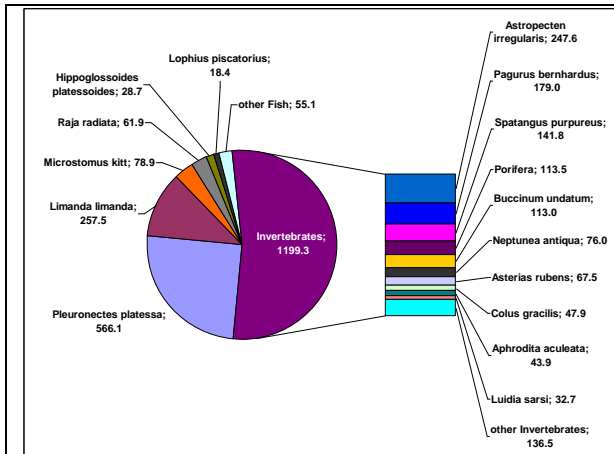


Fig. 2: Catch composition in 39-43F4&5 (offshore)

Fig. 3: Catch composition in 39-43F6&7, 43F8&9 (inshore)

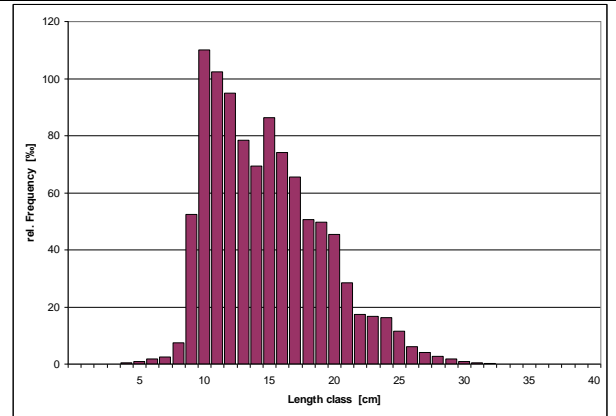
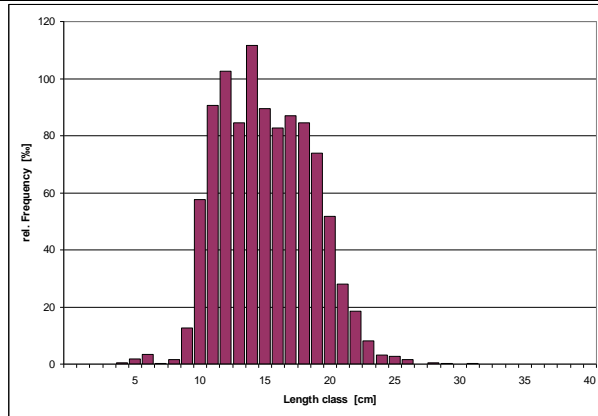


Fig. 4: Length distribution of Dab in 39-43F4&5

Fig. 5: Length distribution of Dab in 39-43F6&7, 43F8&9

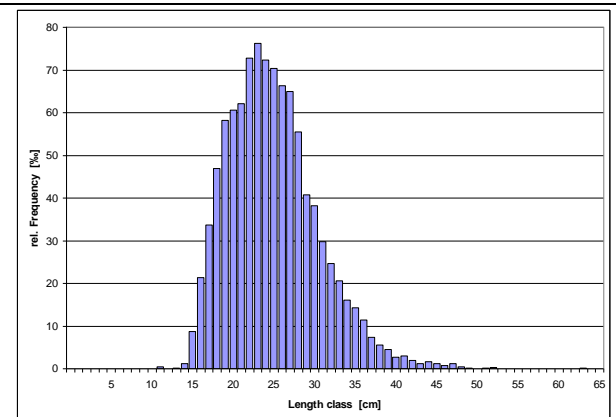
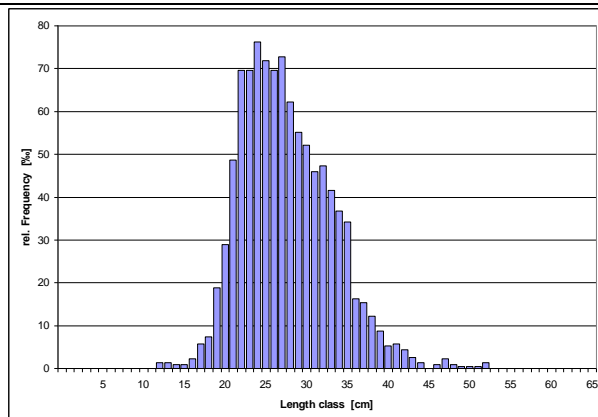


Fig. 6: Length distribution of Plaice in 39-43F4&5

Fig. 7: Length distribution of Plaice in 39-43F6&7, 43F8&9