Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas,
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„SOLEA“

Cruise 724

REPORT

16.08. – 01.09.2016

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 39F6 to 39F4 followed by the offshore stations from South to North. On the late afternoon of 24th August the survey was interrupted in the Danish harbor of Hanstholm where the representative of Multimar has left the ship with the living aquarium stock. On the morning of the 26th FRV “Solea” disembarked the port and the research was continued in the rectangles 42F7 and 42F6. 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. Work in the FFH area “Sylter

Aussenriff" were started in the afternoon and finish the next day. The cruise ended on the 1st September at noon in Cuxhaven and the scientific staff returned to Hamburg.

Results (Fig. 2 – 8)

A total of 73 valid hauls with a standard duration of 30 minutes were conducted with the 7m beam trawl. At 65 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.

K. Panten

Dipl.-Biol. K. Panten

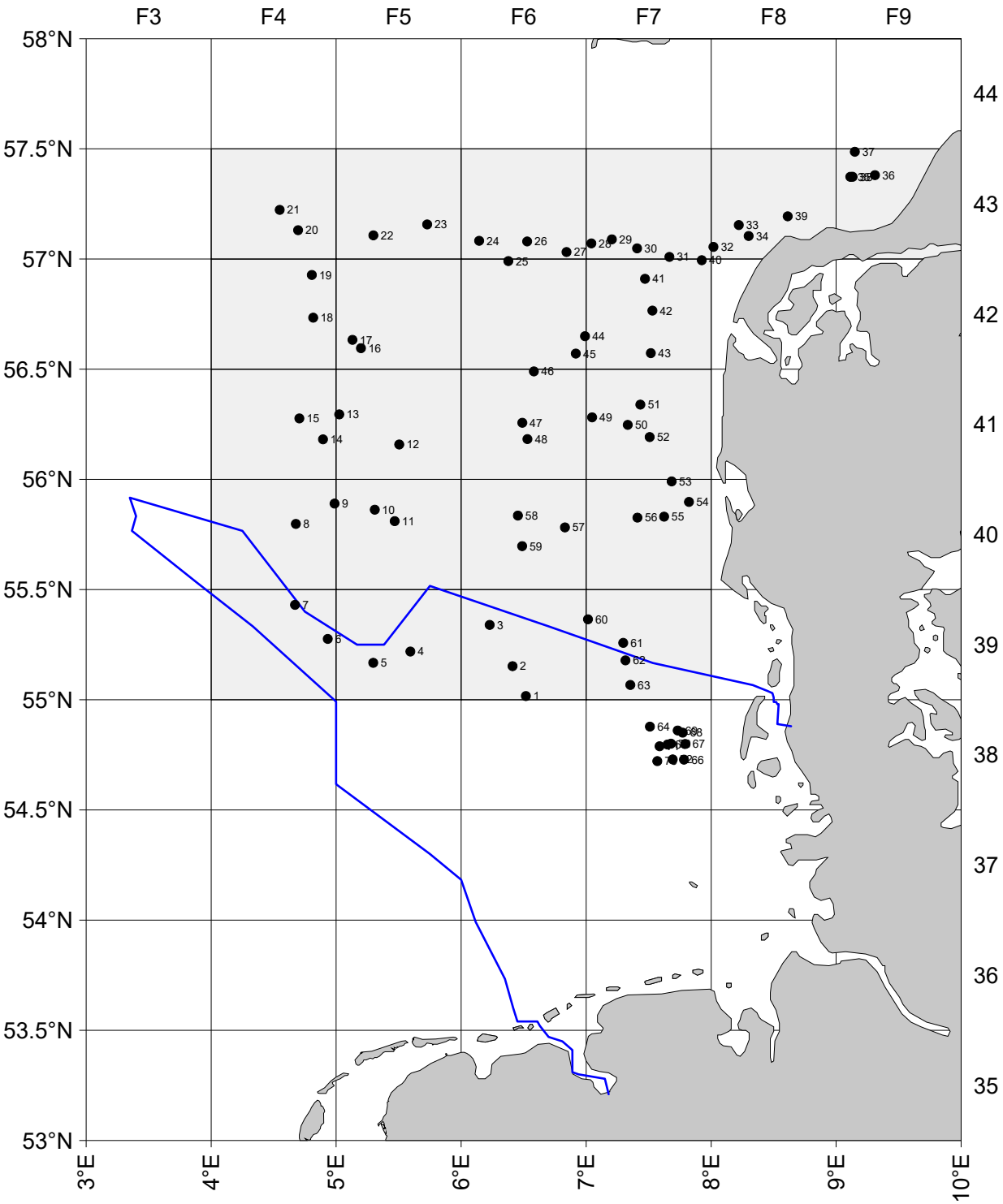

Fig. 1: “Solea“, Cruise no. 724 , Haul positions and area of investigation

Catch composition in kg and length distribution during Beam Trawl Survey

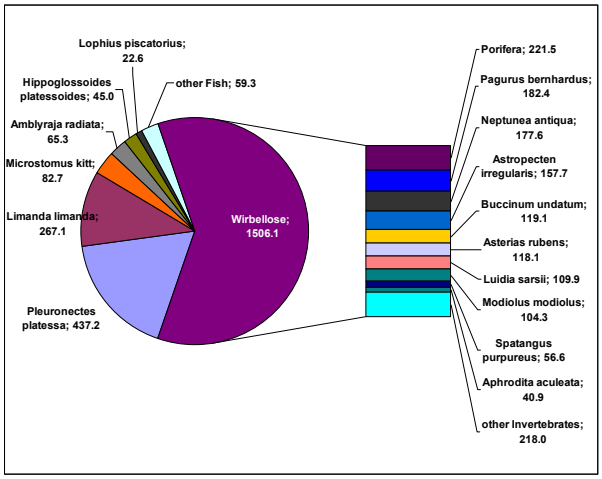

Fig. 2: Catch composition in 39-43F4&5 (offshore)

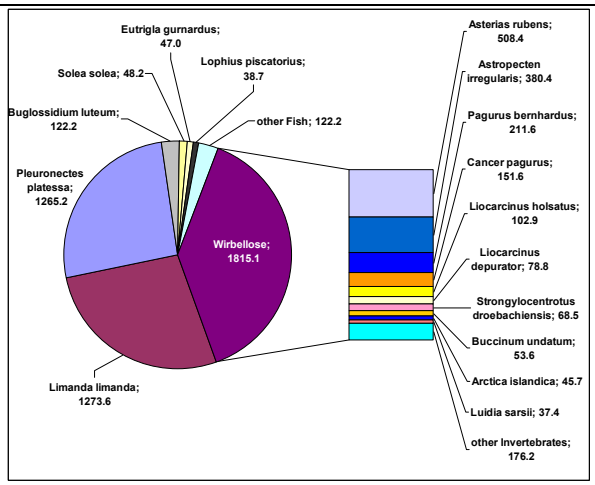

Fig. 3: Catch composition in 39-43F6&7, 43F8&9 (inshore)

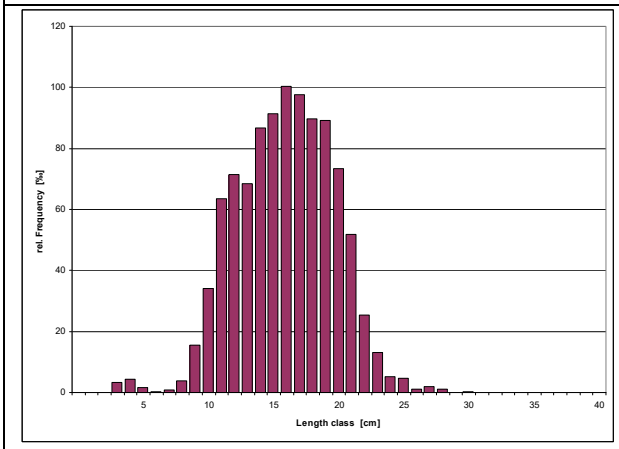

Fig. 4: Length distribution of Dab in 39-43F4&5

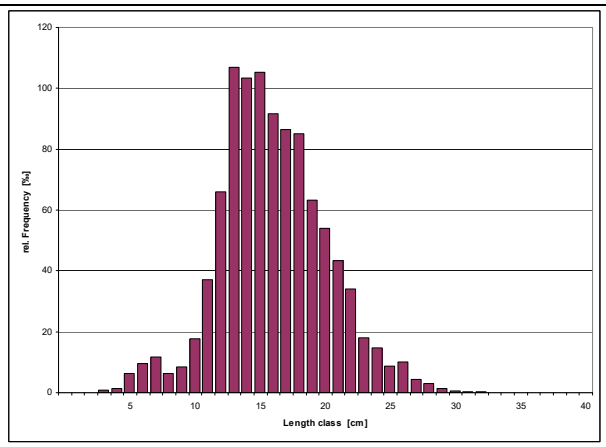

Fig. 5: Length distribution of Dab in 39-43F6&7, 43F8&9

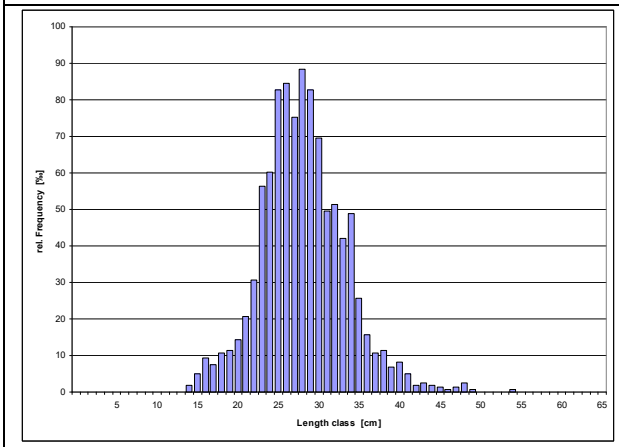

Fig. 6: Length distribution of Plaice in 39-43F4&5

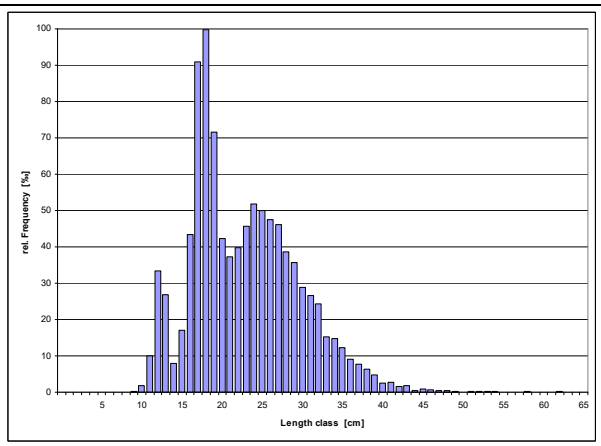

Fig. 7: Length distribution of Plaice in 39-43 F6&7, 43F8&9

Catch composition and length distribution during FFH Monitoring

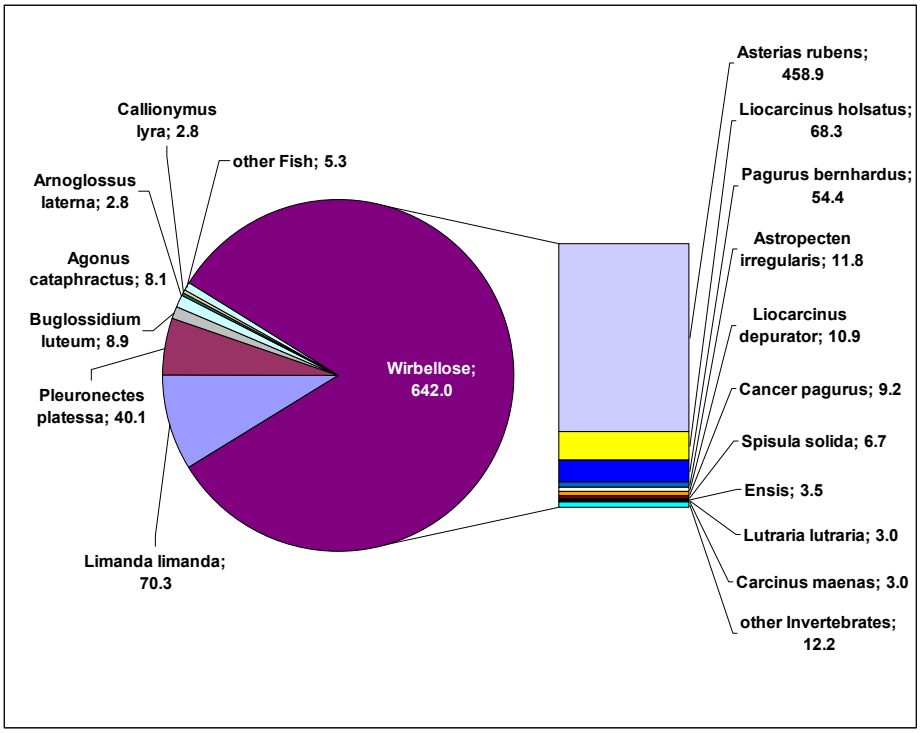

Fig. 8: Catch composition in FFH-Area „Sylter Aussenriff“