

BELGIUM

(R. De Clerck)

Recording of densities and growth rates of the 1987 and 1988 year classes of sole, plaice, dab, flounder, cod and whiting was carried out. Two cruises were therefore undertaken according to the criteria of the International Demersal Young Fish Survey. The groundfish survey was continued in order to estimate the stock size of adult flatfish in the southern North Sea by means of a beamtrawl fishery in August. This was part of an international survey in collaboration with the Dutch Institute.

The market sampling was continued covering cod (North Sea), whiting (North Sea), haddock (North Sea), plaice and sole (North Sea-English Channel-Celtic Sea and Irish Sea. (see following tables).

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Res. Vessels	Market	measured	aged
SOLE					
IV	1	-	9	840	210
	2	-	12	1,150	220
	3	1	10	1,296	303
	4	-	8		200
VIIIf,g	1	-	8	764	230
	2	-	4	350	139
	3	-	5	395	230
	4	-	7	685	160
VIIa	1	-	-	-	-
	2	-	5	448	140
	3	-	1	70	70
	4	-	-	-	-
VIIId,e	1	-	3	210	210
	2	-	1	70	70
	3	-	1	70	70
	4	-	2	160	160

Area	Season	No. of samples		No. of fish	
		Res. Vessels	Market	measured	aged
PLAICE					
IV	1	-	9	562	140
	2	-	12	758	130
	3	1	10	1,428	263
	4	-	8	524	140
VIIIf, k	1	-	8	490	130
	2	-	4	244	100
	3	-	5	252	180
	4	-	7	440	80
VIIa	1	-	-	-	-
	2	-	5	286	100
	3	-	1	40	40
	4	-	-	-	-
VIIId, e	1	-	3	150	150
	2	-	1	50	50
	3	-	1	50	50
	4	-	2	80	80
COD	1	-	6	280	280
IV	2	-	7	353	280
	3	-	8	350	350
	4	-	9	433	390
WHITING	1	-	9	336	200
IV	2	-	9	475	175
	3	-	18	610	310
	4	-	11	531	285
HADDOCK	1-4	-	2	100	100
IV					