



STATISTICS COMMITTEE

1977

D. de G. Griffith

Belgium

(P. Hovart + K. Michielsen)

There have been no major changes in the collection and processing of statistical data during 1977.

The computer programme elaborated to report biological data per ICES statistical rectangle however became operational.

Canada

(E.B. Dunne + D.A. MacLean)

The Canadian statistical system remained virtually unaltered during 1977, compared to earlier years. The advent of the 200 mile limit has necessitated some minor alteration in procedures, to facilitate the processing of foreign vessel logs and reports; however, the domestic statistical system has, to this point in time, proved to be adaptable.

During 1977, Canadian Atlantic Coast vessels operated only in the south of the old ICNAF area and did not operate in waters of the Eastern Atlantic. As reported in the past, Canada can provide all statistical data pertaining to fishing operations, as required by ICES.

Denmark

(H. Lassen + E. Lund)

The Danish fishery statistical system is unchanged compared with previous years as far as reporting of landings for human consumption is concerned.

The reporting on the species composition in the landings for reduction purposes has been extended to include about 3 000 samples taken at random from the approximately 25 000 landings which made up the Danish catches for reduction purposes.

The sampling for biological parameters has remained at the same level as in 1976, but with increased attention to the landings for reduction purposes.

This leaves some of the important species in the fisheries for human consumption sampled at an unsatisfactory level.

Logbooks have been introduced to the fisheries in the Baltic convention area during 1977, for all vessels of a length more than 17 m and for vessels between 15 and 17 m being away from port more than 24 hours.

The present statistical system has been investigated during 1977 with a view to possible ADP treatment in the future.

Logbooks will be obligatory from 1978 onwards and there will be increased attention to both the biological sampling as well as the sampling for nominal catches.

Finland

(A. Rantala)

There were no principal changes in our fishing data collecting and processing methods during 1977.

The fishing data, collected by the Fisheries Division of Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute, are divided into four categories :

1. Data from fishermen fishing with vessels with an overall length of more than 15 m, reporting their fishing for every fishing effort;
2. monthly fishing data from other sea fishermen;
3. fishing data from freshwater fishermen reporting their vendace fishing monthly and all their other fishing only yearly;
4. fishing data from non-professional fishermen whose fishing is surveyed at intervals of a few years, the most recent having been in 1975.

In the near future, we will be trying to improve our data collecting methods to make it possible to estimate fishing effort data for freshwater species in the sea areas.

France

No report received.

German Democratic Republic

(B. Schreiber + B. Vaske)

There have been no major changes in the collection and processing of statistical data during 1977.

Germany, Federal Republic of

(A. Schumacher + G. Wagner)

The system of collection and processing of fishery statistics in the German (F.R.) deep sea trawler fishery has been described in 1973 (C.M.1973/D:6). During 1977, no essential change took place.

In 1975, a new logbook system for the cutter fishery on voluntary basis was introduced and became obligatory as of 1.7.1977 for boats more than 17 m long and at sea for longer than one day.

The new law does not apply to boats fishing for shrimps or mussels.

Analysis of the reports shows that at present nearly 80% of cutter landings recorded in the ports of the Baltic and the North Sea are covered by the new logbook system.

During 1978, the reporting rate is expected to improve considerably.

The weight of the estimated catches reported in the logbooks differ from the landed weight only by about 5%.

Iceland

(J. Blöndal + M. Elísson)

1977 passed without any significant changes in the Icelandic statistical system. Earlier plans regarding the computerisation of logbook data were postponed, the reason being the renewal of computer equipment signifying a different approach to system construction. This new equipment is scheduled to be operative by autumn 1978.

Ireland

(D. de G. Griffith)

No significant changes were made in the Irish fisheries statistics system during 1977.

Netherlands

(H.B. Becker + Th. J. Tienstra)

Compared to 1976, no significant changes were made in the Netherlands fisheries statistics system. As mentioned in the 1976 Administrative Report, a working group is looking into the system. Proposals for improvements within the existing system or a possible new design have not been made up to now.

Norway

(P. Mietle + Ø. Ulltang)

There were no essential changes in the Norwegian data collecting and reporting system during the year 1977.

However, the extensions to 200 miles economic zones have increased the requirement for more detailed and accurate catch reporting. To meet these requirements, we have attempted to make the existing system more perfect and efficient. This work will be carried on in 1978 and our reporting to ICES will obviously benefit from it.

Poland

(A. Ropelewski)

There have been no changes in the collection and processing of statistical data during 1977.

A computer programme is now being elaborated to report biostatistical data per ICES and ICNAF statistical units. It is hoped that such data will be available from the year 1979.

Portugal

No report received.

Spain

No report received.

Sweden

(R. Lind + B. Lindfors)

The data collection for sea fisheries based upon a new type of logbook kept on board all sea-going fishing vessels of 12 m length and above started on 1 July 1977. From 1 January 1978 also smaller vessels in sea fisheries will be included.

From 1 January 1978 fishing by foreign vessels in the Swedish fishery zone of the Baltic is reported to the Swedish coast guard and registered on line.

Data processing of these reports, and of Swedish logbook data, will be started as soon as the recently installed computer has been technically completed and relevant ADP programmes tested.

United Kingdom

(A.C. Burd + J.A. Pope)

Only minor changes have been made in the system of catch and effort data collection in England and Wales. The basic data processing system has remained the same, but an extensive review has taken place with a view to improving certain aspects of the system.

The collection, processing and publication of Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistics continued along precisely the same lines during 1977 as in the period 1974-76. Sampling of fish landings for biological purposes was also maintained and some information on discards at sea was collected by scientific observers on board commercial vessels.

U.S.A.

(E. Heyerdahl + K. Paine)

As in recent years, the United States did not participate in any fishing activities within the ICES area during 1977. All USA catch and effort statistics for that year are being provided to ICNAF and FAO.

Statistical reporting procedures for the USA domestic fisheries remained unchanged over the requirements of 1976. However, for foreign distant-water fleets, major changes were enacted through the fisheries conservation and management act of 1976. Beginning 1 March 1977, all foreign fishing activities within 200 miles of the U.S. coastline came under the jurisdiction of this legislation. Principal and by-catch species were limited by time, area and quota restrictions. Summary fleet catches by species management plans were reported to the USA by two-week periods. In addition, individual vessel catches were required over a two-week period for each 30 x 30 minute and gear-type combination engaged in during the reporting period. These detailed vessel summaries were reported quarterly, using the formats previously agreed to for the

ICNAF statistical areas, through the Coordinating Working Party for Atlantic Fishery Statistics (CWP). These data are being processed into computer formats.

U.S.S.R.

(G.V. Martinsen + N.V. Yanovskaya)

In 1977, there have been no changes in collection and processing of statistics. It is expected that in 1978 the processing of statistics will be computerised. Then it will become possible to present catch statistics to ICES by statistical rectangles.

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