

S t a t i s t i c s C o m m i t t e e

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1969

Belgium

The compilation of the statistical data (catches, fishing grounds, voyages, fishing hours, sea days, fishing effort etc.) has been further mechanized.

A further division of the statistical data was carried out according to the kind and type of fishery.

The problems of evaluating the various characteristics of beam trawlers in terms of their effect on fishing effort measurements were also studied.

Canada

(A.M. Fleming)

The principal advance in preparation of Canadian Atlantic fisheries statistics was the extension to Newfoundland after a short experimental period in 1968 of data-processing of all landings from the fisheries. As a result of this, electronic data processing equipment is now in use for tabulation of all Canadian fishery statistics and submissions to ICNAF are programmed directly from a computer.

Canada's fisheries are generally confined to the ICNAF statistical areas of the Northwest Atlantic. However, during the latter half of 1969, 2 Canadian tuna seiners fished in the ICES South Division in the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa.

Iceland

(Már Elísson)

Changes in the statistics system were only gradual in 1969. Every effort is made to make the statistics more accurate. Special work is now being carried out on changes in the effort in the various types of fishing. The results already available are promising. This work includes calculations with the aid of a computer to try to discover the comparative importance of various factors such as size, engine power etc. in determining the catching power of the vessels.

Norway

No important changes have taken place in 1969 in the collection and processing of statistical data or in the reporting of such data to the Council.

Good progress was made in 1969 in the preparatory work aiming at an improved data collection and processing system which can lead to better and more detailed catch and fishing effort statistics. The intention is to improve the data registration system and establish a fishery data bank to which detailed data on catch, catch disposition, prices, fishing effort etc. will be reported for each fishing trip and landing. From the data bank, which in addition will contain the fishing vessel characteristics, all necessary statistical information will be extracted by means of computers. The work, which is temporarily limited to herring, mackerel, sprat, capelin, Norway pout, sandeel and similar species, is carried out by the Directorate of Fisheries in co-operation with the fishermen's sales organisations. It is hoped that the data bank will be established early in 1971, and that the new system after a necessary test period will be carried out from 1972 for the species mentioned.

The preparatory work for other species will probably start during 1970.

Sweden

(S. Sahlin)

The new arrangements mentioned in the Administrative Report for 1968 are now in practice with regard to the landings on the west coast of Sweden. The collection of the Swedish fishery statistics for south and east coasts and for the Swedish landings in foreign countries was carried on in the same way as earlier, but will evidently soon be amended.