

using rigid Swedish grids to reduce the capture of fish species in a *Nephrops* trawl

TARGET SPECIES

Nephrops

AREA, VESSEL

31 twin trawl catch comparison hauls were carried out in the North Sea and east of Shetland on board the Fruitful Bough PD 109 (522kW) during 2010.

GEAR MODIFICATION

Two Swedish grids were tested in a standard *Nephrops* trawl. They had

- (i) 35 mm bar spacing and
- (ii) 40 mm bar spacing

The catches were compared with those in a 40 mm codend which estimates the population on the fishing grounds



% population retained by the grid gears

	35 mm grid	40 mm grid
<i>Nephrops</i>	83	87
Cod	4	7
Haddock	12	13
Whiting	17	15

RESULTS

Both grids eliminated catches of large fish

There was a loss of smaller *Nephrops* (< 41-45 mm carapace length) due to their selection from the 80mm codend

There was no significant loss of larger *Nephrops*.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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Drewery J., 2011. 35 and 40mm Swedish grids in a Scottish *Nephrops* trawl fishery. Scottish Marine and Freshwater Science Vol 02 No 04.

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