

inserting a 50 mm square mesh panel (SMP) to reduce capture of undersized fish in Mediterranean bottom trawls

TARGET SPECIES

Atlantic horse mackerel, European hake, poor cod, broadtail shortfin squid, deep-water rose shrimp and all marketable species

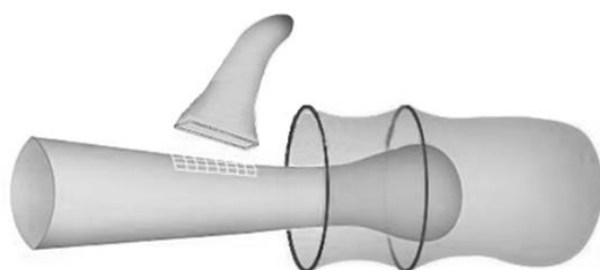
AREA, VESSEL

8 hauls took place during 2012 on board the commercial trawler “Angela Madre” (206 kW, 22.7 m, 67 GT) in the Tyrrhenian Sea



GEAR MODIFICATION

A 50 mm square-mesh panel was inserted 8 m in front of a 50 mm diamond mesh codend in a Mediterranean bottom trawl. Small mesh covers were used to catch the fish escaping through the SMP and the codend.



RESULTS

The square mesh panel did not contribute much to the overall release efficiency.

This may be due to the large distance it was from the codline (8 m)

% escaping through the smp

	undersized	marketable	total
Atlantic horse mackerel	8.6	0.5	5.3
European hake	0.9	0	0.8
Red mullet	7.7	0.9	1.3
Poor cod			1.7
Broadtail shortfin squid			0.2
Deep-water rose shrimp	4.8	1	2

% retained in the codend

	undersized	marketable	total
Atlantic horse mackerel	6	79	36
European hake	30	100	39
Red mullet	69	81	80
Poor cod			47
Broadtail shortfin squid			66
Deep-water rose shrimp	38	91	76

FURTHER INFORMATION

a.sala@ismar.cnr.it



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