

# increasing mesh size in the extension of a beam trawl

## to improve the selectivity of sole

### TARGET SPECIES

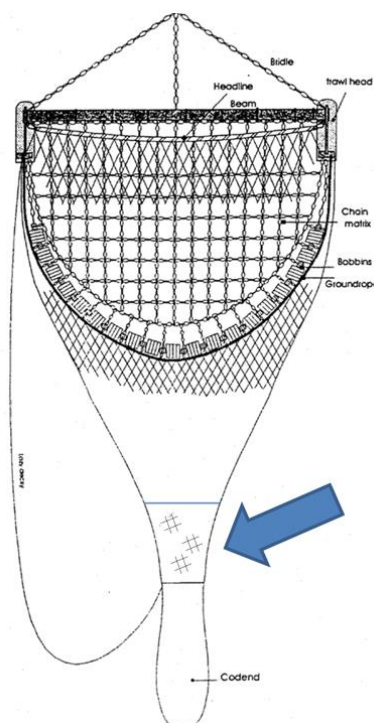
sole

### AREA, VESSEL

48 twin beam trawl tows were carried out in the North Sea (ICES IVc) on board the “Sonja” Z19

### GEAR MODIFICATION

The catches of a beam trawl with 100 mm diamond mesh netting in the extension are compared with the catches of beam trawl with a 150 mm diamond mesh extension.



	Total	% Change
All Sole		
100 mm	4692	
150 mm	3770	-19.7
Undersized sole (< 24 cm)		
100 mm	708	
150 mm	423	-40.3
marketable sole (≥ 24 cm)		
100 mm	3984	
150 mm	3347	-16.0

### RESULTS

The 150mm diamond mesh extension released more undersized sole.

Commercial levels of catch of marketable sole were maintained

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Bayse S., Polet H., 2015. Evaluation of a large mesh extension in a Belgian beam trawl to reduce the capture of sole (*Solea solea*). Instituut voor Landbouw- en Visserijonderzoek. heleen.lenoir@ilvo.vlaanderen.be, hans.polet@ilvo.vlaanderen.be, bart.verschueren@ilvo.vlaanderen.be

**ILVO**

