

using flexible sorting grids to improve the selectivity of the Mediterranean bottom trawl fishery

TARGET SPECIES

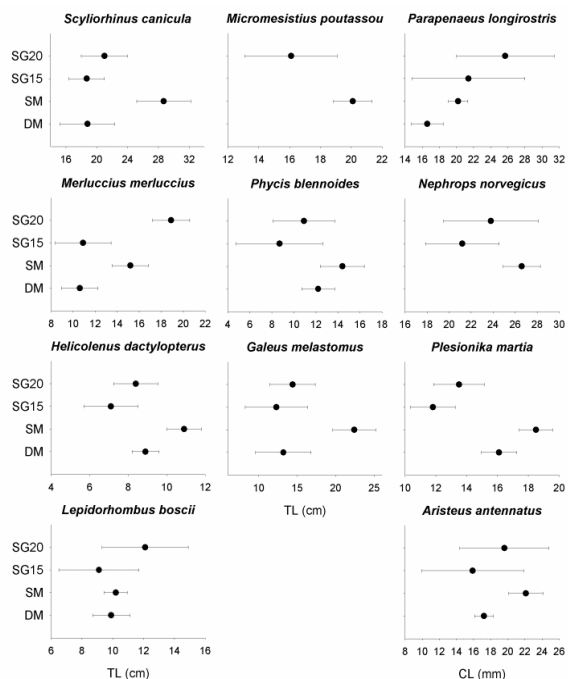
hake; Norway lobster; red shrimp

AREA, VESSEL

21 hauls were carried out in the Balearic Islands multispecies bottom trawl fishery on board the FV Moralti Nou (22.05 m, 365 HP)

GEAR MODIFICATION

The catching performance of two flexible sorting grids, installed in extension piece, were compared on a divided bottom trawl. The lower 25% of the grids did not have bars and led to a 40 mm diamond mesh codend. The upper 75% had bar spacing of either 15 mm (SG15) or 20 mm (SG20)



RESULTS

The 15 mm grid gear retained more smaller individuals of all species.

The 20 mm grid gear was more selective and had fewer discards.

It was concluded that using a 20 mm grid with a 40 mm square mesh codend could be a plausible additional measure to improve selectivity.

FURTHER INFORMATION enric.massuti@ba.ieo.es;

Massuti E., et al.- 2009. Efficiency of flexible sorting grids to improve size selectivity of bottom trawl in the Balearic Islands (western Mediterranean), with comparison to a change in mesh cod-end geometry. *Journal of Applied Ichthyology*, 25: 153-161.

