

Discard survival of undersized plaice in the Danish bottom trawl fishery

AIM

To estimate the discard survival of undersized plaice in the Danish bottom trawl fishery.

TARGET SPECIES

European plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*)

AREA, VESSEL

Skagerrak (ICES IIIa) on board S84 Ida-Katrine (15.1 m, 221 kW)



FISHING OPERATIONS

A standard commercial twin rig trawl gear with nominal diamond mesh size of 90 mm was fished: (1) in summer targeting plaice, (2) in winter targeting plaice, and (3) in winter targeting Norway lobster. The catch was sorted on deck following usual commercial practise. Undersized plaice that would have previously been discarded, were placed in specially designed holding tanks.



RESULTS

The survival probability of undersized plaice after 14 days in captivity was:

- (1) 44% of 333 fish when targeting plaice in summer.
- (2) 75% of 142 fish when targeting plaice in winter.
- (3) 41% of 123 fish when targeting Norway lobster in winter.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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