

SURVEY ON THE PROCEDURES USED IN ESTIMATING AND COMPILING TUNA STATISTICS

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At the 1981 SCRS meeting, there was considerable discussion as to how the SCRS could review the procedures used in estimating statistics. It was agreed that the Sub-Committee on Statistics and the Secretariat carry out a study in this aspect. In order to start the study, the Secretariat circulated questionnaires to all the statistical correspondents of ICCAT member and non-member countries. The questionnaires covered all the detailed points concerning procedures adopted by the national statistical offices or scientists in estimating, compiling and reporting national statistics.

Table 1 lists the countries from which answers have been received. We have received a fairly good number of responses. The only major fishery for which no information was received is the FIS tropical fleet. We are also still lacking information on the USSR.

The results of the study are summarized in Appendix 1. These are not statistics, but descriptions. No attempt was made to summarize the information quantitatively.

These questionnaires revealed many details which the Secretariat was not aware of. For example, we did not know that French albacore catches are reported in gilled and gutted weight rather than in round weight. Also the size classes are quite variable among the countries (i.e. some countries truncate the decimals for cm while others round to the nearest cm).

Table 2 compares some of the important points in the procedures among the countries.

*The appendix is available upon request at the Secretariat.

Table 1. RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONNAIRES RECEIVED, (as of Oct. 10, 1982)

Fisheries	Task 1	Task 2 (C and E)	Biological (size)	Remarks
Angola	x	x	x	
Argentina		no answer received		
Brazil - BB	x	x	x	
Brazil - LL	x	x	x	from two sources
Canada - BP	x	x	x	plus HAND for 1981
- TRAP	x	x	x	
- PS	x	x	x	
- LL	x	x	x	
Cape Verde		no answer received		
China (Taiwan)	x	x	x	
Cuba - BB	x	x	x	
- PS		no answer received		
- LL	x	x		
France - Trop. BB+TR	x	x	x	
- Med. PS	x	x	x	
FIEM - BB		no answer received		
- PS		no answer received		
Ghana - PS-BB	x	x	x	
Italy - PS		no answer received		
- TRAP		"		
Ivory Coast Local		no answer received		
Japan - BB	x	x	x	
- LL	x	x	x	
Korea - BB	x	x	x	
- LL	x	x	x	
Mexico		no answer received		
Morocco - Local	x	x		
Portugal- Madeira	x	x	x	
- Azores		no answer received		
- Mainland		no answer received		
- Tropical		no answer received		
Senegal - Local		no answer received		
South Africa - All	x	x	x	including BB, LL, SPOR (no size) and PS
- Trawl, HAND	x	x		
Spain - CANARIAS		no answer received		
- NE BB+TR		no answer received		
- LL	x	x	x	sword fish only
- TROP. PS	x	x	x	
- TRAP		no answer received		
USA - LOCAL	x			
- TROP. PS	x	x	x	
USSR - PS		no answer received		
- LL		no answer received		
Venezuela -LL		no answer received		
PS+SURF		no answer received		
Secretariat LL (port sampling)				
(Korea+Panama-Taiwan)	x	x	x	

Table 2. COMPARISON OF VARIOUS IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS OF REPORTED DATA

Fisheries	TASK 1			TASK 2			BIOLOGICAL		
	Landings	Catches	Coverage(%)	Weight in	Coverage(%)	Raised	Catch in	Size in	Class
Angola	x		100	round weight	100	no	round weight	FL	truncated decimals
Brazil LL	x	x	100	round or gg	100	no	round or dressed	FL	rounded to the closest unit
BB	x		?	?	p.	no	round weight	FL	rounded to the closest unit
Canada RR	x	x	100	round weight	partial	yes	round weight	BW	rounded to the closest unit
TRAP	x		100	round weight	100	no	round weight	BW	rounded to the closest unit
PS		x	100	round weight	100	no	round weight	FL	truncated decimals
LL	x		partial	round weight	partial	yes	round weight		no data
China LL	x		100	round weight	40-80	yes	no. of fish	FL or eye-fork	rounded to the closest unit
Cuba BB	x		100	gilled and gutted	100	no	gilled and gutted	FL	truncated decimals
LL		x	100	round weight	100	no	no. of fish		no data
France BB(temp)	x	x	100	gilled and gutted	50-100	yes	no. of fish	FL	truncated decimals
PS(Med.)	x		100	round weight	39-65	yes	round weight	FL	truncated decimals
Ghana BB,PS		x	95	round weight	partial	no	round weight	FL	rounded to the closest unit
Japan BB	x		100	round weight	90	no	round weight	FL	rounded up
LL		x	100	round weight	80-90	yes	no. of fish	FL or eye-fork	rounded up
Korea BB	x		100	round weight	50-60	no	round weight	FL	truncated decimals
LL	x		100	round weight	60	no	no. of fish	FL	truncated decimals
Morocco	x		100	round weight		no data		FL	rounded to the closest unit
Portugal (Madeira)	x		ca100	gilled and gutted	partial	no	gilled and gutted	FL	truncated decimals
S. Africa	x		partial	round weight	partial	no	round weight	FL	truncated decimals
Spain LL	x		partial	round weight	60	yes	round weight	FL	rounded to the closest unit
PS(Trop)	x		100	round weight	partial	up to 75%	round weight	FL, ldi	??
US Coastal	x		??	round weight		no data			no data
PS(Trop.)		x	100	round weight	100	no	round weight	FL	rounded to the closest unit
Secretariat									
Port sampling	x	x	50-110	round weight	50-100	no	round weight	FL	truncated decimals

Note: truncated 50cm=50.0-50.9
rounded 50cm=49.5-50.4
rounded up 50cm=49.1-50.0