

## A NOTE ON THE CATCH AND EFFORT DATA OF JAPANESE TEMA-BASED BAITBOAT FLEET IN 1981 AND 1982

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## SUMMARY

Due to the change in the reporting manner of the catch data by fishermen since 1981, the catch and effort data of the Japanese baitboat fleet operating in the Gulf of Guinea were found to be revised. Through investigation of detailed logbooks available for more than 90% of the fleet, a new catch and effort data file was compiled and submitted to the Secretariat data base. The problem was generated by reporting skipjack catches together with young yellowfin and bigeye tunas.

## RESUME

La façon de procéder dans le rassemblement des données de prise par les pêcheurs ayant été modifiée depuis 1981, il semblait bon de réviser les données de prise et effort de la flottille japonaise de canneurs qui opère dans le golfe de Guinée. Une fois étudiés plus de 90% des registres de pêche de la flottille, un nouveau fichier de prise et effort a été créé et transmis au Secrétariat pour la base de données. Le problème était que de jeunes albacores et thons obèses étaient inclus dans les prises de listao déclarées.

## RESUMEN

Debido a un cambio en el formato de presentación de los datos de captura por parte de los pescadores desde 1981, se observó que los datos de captura y esfuerzo de la flota de cebo japonesa que opera en el Golfo de Guinea, habían sido revisados. Investigando los cuadernos de pesca detallados de más del 90% de la flota se recopiló un nuevo archivo de datos de captura y esfuerzo que se presentó a la Secretaría. El problema consistía en que la captura de listado incluía patudo y rabil juvenil.

This short report describes the revision and its background concerning catch and effort data of Japanese Tema-based baitboat fishery for the years 1981 and 1982. At the International Skipjack year Program Conference of ICCAT at Tenerife in June 1983, it was pointed out that CPUE of skipjack of the Japanese baitboat fishery has recently been on the increase and some concern was expressed about uncertainty in the catch and effort (C/E) data.

Through the interview to the fishing companies and detailed examination of the data, it was found that the C/E data had contained a bias in such way that the skipjack catch reported included small yellowfin and bigeye tunas since 1981. This happened by the change in reporting manner of the fishermen. Fortunately, original logbook records of daily catch by species and effort were provided by the companies to the FSFRL, which covered more than 90% of the fleet. The data from only one vessel out of ten were not available.

The data were recompiled and the resultant catch and effort data were submitted to the ICCAT secretariat, as revised Japanese baitboat Task II data. The present investigation led accordingly the new Task I data of the Japanese baitboat fishery for 1981 and 1982 (Table 1). It is noted that the CPUE of skipjack for the Japanese baitboat fishery in 1981 which was calculated by Wise 1983 MS should be changed to 6.9 for 8.6 MT/day. The follow-up CPUE of skipjack in 1982 resulted in 6.5 MT/day.

#### References

Wise, J.P. 1983 MS : The baitboat fishery for skipjack in the Gulf of Guinea, 1969-82. Doc. No. 45, ICCAT Skipjack Conference, Tenerife.

Table 1. Revised annual catch of Japanese baitboat fishery in the Atlantic, in 1981 and 1982 (MT).

|        | 1981   |         | 1982   |         |
|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
|        | Old    | Revised | Old    | Revised |
| BET    | 3      | 184     | 0      | 95      |
| YFT    | 254    | 2,564   | 456    | 1,752   |
| SKJ    | 15,426 | 12,935  | 9,911  | 8,520   |
| Others | 495    | 495     | 253    | 253     |
| Total  | 16,178 | 16,178  | 10,620 | 10,620  |