

STATE Texas

DATE July 1, 1951

SHRIMP INVESTIGATION

QUARTERLY REPORT

From: April 1, 1951
To: June 30, 1951
Biologist: E. D. McRae, Jr.
Boat: Carey
Crew: Saturnino Garcia
David Mejardo

INTRODUCTION

The current shrimp investigation was initiated on the 26th of November, 1950. An attempt was made to begin proper collections during the first quarter of the current year. Consistently inclement weather has seriously curtailed collections and effectively blocked the progressive route of this investigation since its inception.

COLLECTIONS

Eight days were spent in outside collections during this, the second quarter, of the year 1951. Of the eight days, one day occurred during April, six days during May and one day during June. Twenty-seven stations were collected.

As the biological data for this quarter was so scattered as to be of less value than that normally gained from regular collections, a greater emphasis was placed on taking samples of the bottom. The regularity or frequency with which bottom samples are taken has but little effect upon the validity of conclusions to be drawn from sampling of this nature. The composition of the bottom (accurately charted) is of basic importance in this investigation. By utilizing part of the collecting time available during this quarter, it was possible to complete bottom sampling along Transect IV (old). Transect III (old) was also worked from shore out to the 20 fathom depth.

Normal biological sampling was done when feasible.

COLLECTING AREAS

It was considered advisable to revise the collecting plan. Rather than continuing to collect along the nine original transects (extending across the slope of the bottom), the number was reduced to six and sampling was done along diagonals between adjacent transects. These diagonals extend from the inner boundary of one transect outward toward the seaward boundary of the juxtaposed transects on each side. The obvious advantage of the new plan of collecting is that a greater coverage of the bottom is gained while at the same time sampling occurs during the time originally lost in traveling from one transect to the next.

The six transects now being used are as follows:

- I. Unchanged from original plan.
- II. Boiler on Padre Island, approximate location 26°42' N. Lat., 97°19' W. Latitude; bearing 80°.
- III. Originally designated as "IV".
- IV. Original landmark designated as "V"; new bearing 137°.
- V. Bell bouy, Freeport Harbor; bearing 166°.
- VI. Heald Bank whistle bouy; bearing 180°.

*Old transects numbers III, VI and VIII have been omitted.

DATA

No biological conclusions can be properly drawn or effectively defended before the data from collections are complete and can be examined in their entirety.

UTILIZATION OF TIME

The hours of work credited to the crew below indicates the time spent on the shrimp investigation alone; this report does not attempt to show the amount or extent of their participation in other investigations or activities.

	Biologist	Crew
Laboratory work	472	
Field Work	246	246
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Total Hours	718	246