

STATE Texas

DATE January 1, 1951

BLUE CRAB INVESTIGATION

Quarterly Report

From: October 1, 1950 to December 22, 1950
Biologist: F. M. Daugherty, Jr.
Boat: Dolphin
Crew: Jose Rinche

Introduction

The blue crab investigation is concerned with the life history in Texas waters, migration patterns, shedding grounds, crab parasites, and fishing methods.

Status of Project at the Time of the Last Report, Sept. 1, 1950 (Annual Report)

Data compilation concerning the occurrence, size, sex, sexual condition, larvae, spawning habits, was in process. In addition, hydrographical and geographical data had been recorded.

Off-shore spawning was confirmed and some migratory patterns established. Spawning and hatching season had been determined.

Areas Worked On

The investigational area includes Aransas Bay and the passes into Redfish Bay; Copano and Port Bays; Carlos, Mesquite

Ayers Bays; and Cedar Bayou, a pass from Mesquite Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. Aransas Pass and the Gulf immediately adjacent to Port Aransas have been included in recent work.

Activities

The original stations of the investigation are still checked, but more time has been allotted to Cedar Bayou. The fish traps in Cedar Bayou have been of great aid in determining spawning and movement patterns.

Table I

Stations Tested from Oct. 1, 1950 to Dec. 22, 1950		
Month	Regular and Special Crab Stations	Stations Utilized From Other Projects
October	0	7
November	51	1
December	16	1
Total Stations	67	9

Biological Data Accumulated

Biological data accumulated during the fourth quarter was for the greater part routine and has not been correlated with previous findings.

Other Activities

Other activities consisted of minor work in connection with the Seminar and a trip to Houston to obtain laboratory

materials.

Utilization of Time

Table II

Disposition of time for the fourth quarter		
Project	Biologists Hours	Crew Hours
Crab Investigation (Field)	160	160
Crab Investigation (Lab.)	60	
Crab Investigation (Data Assimilation)	168	
Week End Duty	16	
Seminar Work	48	
Annual Crab Report	88	
Laboratory Material Trips	24	
Total	564	160

Summary

1. Work during the fourth quarter followed the same general trend as prior work.
2. Work was largely confined to crab investigation.
3. Data collected has not been correlated with previous data.