

Preliminary Heights at Annulus of Scallops
from Jeffrey's Ledge, Gulf of Maine

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Virginia Institute of Marine Science

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WILLIAM J. HARGIS, JR.
DIRECTOR

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March 28, 1980

Mr. John Holt
Fass Bros. Seafood
48 Water Street
Hampton, Virginia

Dear John:

Enclosed you will find the results of the preliminary age analysis of the scallops from the Gulf of Maine. Jim Zaborski of VIMS collected this sample from the loading dock at Fass Bros. I was able to age 94 out of 102 scallops in the sample.

For comparison, the height at corresponding annuli of Mid-Atlantic scallops is included. As can be seen the height at each annulus is lower in the Gulf of Maine sample than in that from the New York Bight. However, since there is very little data on growth rates from this area of the Gulf of Maine, a sample of this size and composition is not sufficient for making reliable management decisions. Other data required include height-frequency, catch/unit effort, yield per recruit and other data which would enable researchers to describe the dynamics of the population and the effects of fishing. I am told that the State of Maine is investigating the scallops in this area in a manner similar to what I did aboard your boats last summer. Data from these trips should be available.

I hope this information is useful to you.

Sincerely,

Lowell W. Fritz
Lowell W. Fritz

LWF/gbr

Enclosure

cc Mr. Dexter Haven
Dr. Herbert Austin
Mr. Jim Zaborski

Preliminary heights at annulus of scallops
 from Jeffrey's Ledge, Gulf of Maine.
 Commercial sample obtained March 19, 1980.
 (Based on height at capture).

Year-Class	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971
Age (Yrs)	4.5	5.5	6.5	7.5	8.5
Annulus #	4	5	6	7	8
Mean Height:					
mm	56.1	73.2	82.8	92.9	104
inches	2.21	2.88	3.26	3.66	4.09
Range in Ht (mm)	47-66	60-93	60-97	83-103	101-107
# in Year-Class	9	46	29	8	2 = 94 shells
Mid-Atlantic (New York Bight)					
Mean Height:					
mm	94.3	106.2	117.4	124.7	128.7
inches	3.71	4.18	4.62	4.91	5.07