

SEAMAP Spring 2012 Plankton Survey Cruise Report
Cruise Dates: 05/08/12-05/10/12

Prepared by Chloe Dean on 09/28/2012
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Introduction

The Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) spring plankton surveys are conducted to provide information on the occurrence, abundance and geographical distribution of the eggs and larvae of spring spawning fish, which is essential to fisheries management of the Gulf of Mexico.

Objectives

1. Sample in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) SEAMAP Spring Plankton Survey and select stations from their Spring sampling grid.
2. Conduct bongo and neuston tows at each designated station according to NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual.
3. Collect a water column profile (salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity) at each SEAMAP station using a Conductivity/Temperature/Depth (CTD). Other environmental data were taken according to the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines.
4. Measure chlorophyll in the water column by collecting water with the CTD water sampler and filtering onboard for later spectroscopic analysis in the LDWF lab.
5. Label and prepare plankton samples according to NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines and transfer them in a timely manner to the NMFS Pascagoula, MS lab.
6. Code all data according to approved NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines, and enter data on the LDWF SEAMAP data entry system.
7. Submit data to Jeff Rester, SEAMAP coordinator and Lloyd Kirk, Data Manager at the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Methods

Plankton sampling is conducted at each station using 60cm, 0.335mm-mesh bongo and 1m x 2m, 0.950mm-mesh neuston nets. Samples are transported back to the LDWF Fisheries Research Laboratory for preparation and transfer. Sample workup and data processing is conducted in accordance with the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines. Samples are then transferred to the NMFS Pascagoula, MS lab.

Environmental data is collected in conjunction with each plankton station. Temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity and conductivity values are measured with a CTD. In the event a DO reading falls below 2.0 Mg/L, the DO is verified using a YSI.

Data is coded according to the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines and entered into the LDWF SEAMAP data entry system. The data is then submitted to Jeff Rester, SEAMAP coordinator and Lloyd Kirk, Data Manager at the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Results

The survey was conducted on 08-10 May 2012 aboard the R/V Blazing Seven. Louisiana sampled eleven plankton stations between longitudes 88° 00.23' and 93° 01.92' along the 28° latitude line. Thirty-five plankton samples jars were collected. Plankton samples were transferred to the NMFS Pascagoula, MS lab on 05 May 2012. All chlorophyll samples were analyzed by spectroscopy in the LDWF Fisheries Research Laboratory.

Deviations

There were no significant deviations.

Cruise participants:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Fisheries Management Division personnel collected samples, completed data summaries and entered data on the SAS data entry system. Personnel included Chloe Dean, Suzy Delaune, Robert Boothe and Christine Seither.

Submitted By:

Chloe Dean
SEAMAP Chief Scientist

Table 1. LDWF SEAMAP 2012 Spring Plankton Survey cruise report summary.

STA #	DATE	TIME	LAT	LONG	STAT ZONE	MAX DEPTH (fm)	SALINITY			TEMPERATURE			DO				
	MM/DD/YYYY						SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX		
88001	05/08/2012	1202	27	59.46	88	00.23	11	1310	35.9	36.3	36.2	26.78	21.02	16.86	6.5	6.1	4.5
88002	05/08/2012	1915	27	59.97	88	29.96	11	1170	36.3	36.3	36.4	27.25	21.54	18.09	6.5	6.3	5.1
88003	05/09/2012	2345	28	00.28	88	59.72	13	732.2	36.0	36.4	36.3	25.95	21.28	17.52	6.6	5.6	5.1
88004	05/09/2012	0345	28	00.12	89	30.09	13	530	36.3	36.4	35.8	26.79	18.85	14.65	7.5	4.5	4.5
88005	05/09/2012	0806	27	59.98	90	00.13	14	335	36.4	36.4	35.8	26.65	18.41	14.55	6.4	4.6	4.5
88006	05/09/2012	1320	27	58.33	90	29.65	14	140	36.2	36.5	35.9	27.01	19.31	14.86	6.4	4.5	4.3
88007	05/09/2012	1732	28	00.03	90	59.98	15	81	36.5	36.2	36.1	26.65	16.81	16.74	6.4	4.1	4.1
88008	05/09/2012	2250	27	59.99	91	30.01	15	91	36.2	36.4	36.1	26.52	21.59	16.35	6.4	6.7	3.9
88009	05/10/2012	0328	28	00.17	91	59.95	16	66.8	36.2	36.4	36.4	26.56	22.85	20.17	6.4	6.6	5.1
88010	05/10/2012	0724	27	59.89	92	29.67	16	58	36.0	36.3	36.4	26.00	23.15	19.72	6.4	6.8	4.6
88011	05/10/2012	1201	27	58.86	93	01.92	17	61.7	35.8	36.3	36.4	26.08	22.41	19.92	6.4	6.9	5.3

Submitted by: Chloe Dean

Date submitted: 09/28/2012

SEAMAP Plankton Sample Check-In

Cruise 121

Month/Year May 2012

List stations in ascending order by Pascagoula Station No. (refer to Plankton Station data sheets or Cruise Summary page), then fill in corresponding LDWF Stn. No.

Pascagoula Stn. No.	SEAMAP Stn. No.	Target Lat.	Target Long.	Net	Coll. Date	No. Jars, Remarks		SEAMAP Plankton Sample No.
						Plastic	Glass	
88001	B082	28 00.00	88 00.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/08	1	1	43744
				Bongo-Rt.	05/08	1	1	43745
				Neuston	05/08	1	1	43746
88002	B250	28 00.00	88 30.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/08	1	1	43747
				Bongo-Rt.	05/08	1	1	43748
				Neuston	05/08	1	1	43749
88003	B083	28 00.00	89 00.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/09	1	1	43750
				Bongo-Rt.	05/09	1	1	43751
				Neuston	05/09	1	1	43752
88004	B185	28 00.00	89 30.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/09	1	1	43753
				Bongo-Rt.	05/09	1	1	43754
				Neuston	05/09	1	2	43755
88005	B016	28 00.00	90 00.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/09	2	1	43756
				Bongo-Rt.	05/09	1	1	43757
				Neuston	05/09	1	1	43758
88006	B190	28 00.00	90 30.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/09	1	1	43759
				Bongo-Rt.	05/09	1	1	43760
				Neuston	05/09	1	1	43761
88007	B017	28 00.00	91 00.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/09	1	1	43762
				Bongo-Rt.	05/09	1	1	43763
				Neuston	05/09	1	1	43764

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Pascagoula Stn. No.	SEAMAP Stn. No.	Target Lat.	Target Long.	Net	Coll. Date	No. Jars, Remarks		SEAMAP Plankton Sample No.
						Plastic	Glass	
88008	B195	28 00.00	91 30.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/09	1	1	43765
				Bongo-Rt.	05/09	1	1	43766
				Neuston	05/09	1	1	43767
88009	B022	28 00.00	92 00.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/10	1	1	43768
				Bongo-Rt.	05/10	1	1	43769
				Neuston	05/10	1	1	43770
88010	B202	28 00.00	92 30.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/10	1	1	43771
				Bongo-Rt.	05/10	1	1	43772
				Neuston	05/10	2	3	43773
88011	B023	28 00.00	93 00.00	Bongo-Lt.	05/10	0	*spilled sample	
				Bongo-Rt.	05/10	1	1	43774
				Neuston	05/10	1	1	43775