

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



A review of developments and news of the fishery industries prepared in the BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

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Mailed free to members of the fishery and allied industries. Address correspondence and requests to the: Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D.C.

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The printing of this publication has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, May 21, 1957. (5/31/60)

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COVER: The Pacific Coast sardine and tuna purse seiner is one of the most efficient types of fishing vessels found on the west coast of the United States. In recent years some of these vessels have improved the efficiency of the gear by the addition of a power block and a drumlike reel.

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JAPANESE USE WATER SPRAY TO ATTRACT TUNA FOR POLE-AND-LINE FISHING

or or

The Japanese use a water-spray system to attract tuna to the vessel when they are fishing a school of tuna with pole and line.

This spray system as developed by the Japanese consists of a power-driven pump which supplies a constant flow of sea water to a number of spray outlets, situated at 3 to 4-foot intervals along the walk from which the fishing is done. In Japan, a 125-gross-ton vessel will have one or two centrifugal pumps with 4- to 5-inch intakes. These deliver water into one or two header pipes, depending on whether fishing is done from one or both sides of the vessel. A distributing pipe is laid along the fishing walk. The water pressure is low, and a gentle spray falls between 6 and 18 feet from the hull of the vessel, forming a ruffled band which will be from 4 to 8 feet wide. It is assumed that the ruffling of the surface water hides the vessel and the fishermen from the fish. Also, the tuna demonstrate a "feeding frenzy" which may be heightened by the spray system.

Although the actual value of the method is difficult to determine, its commercial use where pole-and-line fishing for tuna takes place (Japan, Hawaii, Eastern Pacific Ocean, and Cuba) shows clearly that fishermen are thoroughly convinced that it is useful. This method is used only for fishing tuna with pole and line.



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