



COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



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

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CONTENTS

COVER: Atlantic skipjack tuna in the hold of an East Coast purse-seiner. This is part of a 44-ton set made 40 miles south of Block Island, R. I., August 6, 1963. The fish range in size from 7-10 pounds. Quantities of skipjack were first discovered off the Atlantic Coast states in 1962; over 3,000 tons were taken during the 1963 tuna purse-seining season. (See p. 1 of this issue.)

Page		Page	
1	..Review of the Development of the Atlantic Coast Tuna Fishery, by Peter C. Wilson		
11	..How Tuna See a Net, by Frank Hester and John H. Taylor		
Page	TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS:	Page	TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS (Contd.):
	Alaska:		Central Pacific Fisheries Investigations (Contd.):
17	.. Foreign Fishing Activity off Alaska, December 1964	27	.. Trade Wind Zone Oceanographic Studies Continued
17	.. 1964 Alaska King Crab Catch at Record High		Columbia River:
18	.. Fishery Landings, 1963	28	.. Floods in December 1964 Cause Heavy Damage
18	.. Fisheries Highlights, 1963		Federal Aid for Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration:
	Alaska Fisheries Investigations:	28	.. Funds Apportioned to States, Fiscal Year 1965
19	.. Pink Salmon Fail to Select Best Spawning Sites		Federal Purchases of Fishery Products:
	American Samoa:	29	.. Department of Defense Purchases, January-December 1964
20	.. More Tuna Vessels Fishing out of American Samoa	30	.. New Purchasing Contract Provisions Announced by Defense Department
	California:	30	.. Federal Specification Proposed for Fresh and Frozen Shucked Raw Clams
20	.. Regulations on Net Weight Labeling Adopted		Fish Preservation:
20	.. Pelagic Fish Population Survey Continued	31	.. Research Grant to University of Washington
23	.. Shrimp Resources in Northern Coastal Waters Surveyed		Florida:
24	.. Abundance and Condition of Dungeness Crab Surveyed Prior to Open Season	31	.. Fisheries, 1963
25	.. Abalone Observations and Growth Studies	32	.. Exploratory Fishing and Fishery Investigations by Research Vessel <u>Hernan Cortez</u>
26	.. Cans--Shipments for Fishery Products, January-November 1964		
	Central Pacific Fisheries Investigations:		
26	.. Origin and Movements of Skipjack Tuna in Pacific Ocean Studied		

Contents continued page II.

CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

Page	TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS (Contd.):	Page	TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS (Contd.):
	Fluke:		Texas:
33 ..	Fertilized Eggs Incubated at Sandy Hook Marine Laboratory	53 ..	Fisheries, 1963
	Great Lakes:		U. S. Fishing Vessels:
33 ..	Commercial Fishery Landings Lower in First Half of 1964	55 ..	Fisheries Loan Fund and Other Financial Aid for Vessels, October 1-December 31, 1964
33 ..	Lake Trout Planting Program in Lake Superior, 1964		U. S. Foreign Trade:
33 ..	Restocking Work with Lake Trout and Salmon	55 ..	Imports of Canned Tuna in Brine Under Quota
	Gulf Fishery Investigations:	56 ..	Airborne Imports of Fishery Products, January-October 1964
35 ..	Shrimp Distribution Studies	56 ..	Processed Edible Fishery Products, November 1964
35 ..	Shrimp Biology Program		Vessels:
36 ..	Shrimp Dynamics Program	57 ..	Certain Dry Chemical Fire Extinguishers Require Pressure Gauges
37 ..	Estuarine Program		Virginia:
38 ..	Industrial Bottomfish Fishery Program	57 ..	Marine Science Summer Training Program for High School Students
	Industrial Fishery Products:		Washington:
38 ..	Level of Fish Meal Utilization in New England Poultry Rations	57 ..	Unemployment Insurance Costs in the Fishing Industry
	U. S. Fish Meal, Oil, and Solubles:	57 ..	Rock Slide Interferes with Salmon Migration on Cowlitz River
39 ..	Major Indicators for U. S. Supply, November 1964		Wholesale Prices:
39 ..	Production by Areas, December 1964	58 ..	Edible Fish and Shellfish, January 1965
39 ..	Production, October 1964		FOREIGN:
	U. S. Fish Meal and Solubles:		International:
39 ..	Production and Imports, January-October 1964		International Pacific Halibut Commission:
	Inventions:	60 ..	Annual Meeting
40 ..	Trawling Cone That Can Substitute for Otter Boards Invented in Denmark		International North Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission:
	New Jersey:	60 ..	Forecast of 1965 Sockeye and Pink Salmon Run to Puget Sound and Fraser River
41 ..	Fisheries, 1963		Fish Meal:
	New York:	60 ..	World Production, October 1964
42 ..	Frozen Food Regulations Postponed		European Free Trade Association:
	North American Fisheries Conference:	61 ..	Industrial Tariffs Reduced Another 10 Percent
43 ..	Future of Fisheries to be Discussed at First Conference		Territorial Waters and Fishing Limits:
	North Atlantic:	61 ..	Violations Charged by Several European Countries
43 ..	Foreign Fishing Activities off Coast, January 1965		Europe:
	North Atlantic Fisheries Investigations:	62 ..	Fishery Landings at Record High in 1963
44 ..	Fall Distribution and Abundance of Groundfish Species Studied		North America:
	Oceanography:	63 ..	Fishery Landings in 1963
45 ..	Conference and Exhibit to be Held in Washington, D.C.		Food and Agriculture Organization:
45 ..	"Sound Pictures" of Fish Schools May Be Possible with Improved Echo-Sounder	64 ..	Highlights of 11th Session of Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council
46 ..	New Method of Extracting Radioactive Silicon from Sea Water		Oceanography:
	Salmon:	66 ..	Nordic Cultural Commission Meets
47 ..	Returns to Lower Columbia River Hatcheries in 1964 Reported Excellent		Whaling:
47 ..	Salmon Sandwich Big Hit at New York World's Fair	66 ..	Antarctic Season for 1964/65 Opened December 12, 1964
	Sea Lamprey:		Angola:
47 ..	Great Lakes Fishery Commission Commended for Results of Eradication Program	66 ..	New Fish-Processing Industry Planned for Southern Region
	South Atlantic Fisheries Explorations and Gear Development:		Australia:
49 ..	Use of Camera Studied to Fish for Royal-Red Shrimp and Calico Scallop	67 ..	Fishery Export Trends, July-September 1964
50 ..	Seasonal Availability of Swordfish and Tuna Investigated	67 ..	Spiny Lobsters Bring Record Prices
	South Carolina:	68 ..	New Import Duties on Canned Tuna, Canned Salmon, and Canned Fish Cutlets
51 ..	Fisheries Biological Research Progress, October-December 1964	68 ..	Scallop Shells Exported to Japan
			Brazil:
		68 ..	U. S. Survey Team Reports on Potential of Commercial Fishery, by Robert Balkovic, Loyal G. Bouchard, John Crum, J. Bruce Kimsey, Charles Lee, and Wm. Ellis Ripley

Contents continued page III.

CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

Page	FOREIGN (Contd.):	Page	FOREIGN (Contd.):
	Canada:		Japan (Contd.):
70 ..	Tuna Purse Seiner Launched as East Coast Tuna Project Moves Foreward	83 ..	Whale Oil and Meat Production, 1963/64 Season
70 ..	Large Stern Trawler Launched	84 ..	Government's Fishery Budget Estimates, Fiscal Year 1965
71 ..	Floating Fish Factory Planned		Netherlands:
71 ..	Federal-Provincial British Columbia Fisheries Committee Meets	85 ..	Government Gives Fishing Industry Financial Support
72 ..	Symposium on the Economic Aspects of Sport Fishing		Norway:
	Cyprus:	85 ..	Exports of Canned Fish, January 1-September 26, 1964
73 ..	Territorial Waters of 12 Miles Claimed	86 ..	Whale Oil Stocks Sold Out
	Denmark:		Pakistan:
73 ..	Western European Fisheries Convention Ratified	86 ..	Fishery Products Exports, Fiscal Year 1963/64
73 ..	Seal Skins from Alaska Included in Auction of Greenland Seal Skins		Papua and New Guinea:
	Ecuador:	86 ..	Fisheries Potential of Papua and New Guinea
74 ..	Canned Tuna Exported to Brazil		Persian Gulf:
	Faroe Islands:	87 ..	Anglo-Arabian Shrimp Fishing Venture in Persian Gulf
74 ..	Faroesse Vessel to Long Line for Tuna in Caribbean		Portugal:
	Greece:	87 ..	Canned Fish Exports, January-September 1964
74 ..	Freezer-Trawler Fishery Trends, September 1964	87 ..	Canned Fish Pack, January-September 1964
	Guinea:		South Africa Republic:
75 ..	Territorial Waters of 130 Miles Claimed	87 ..	Anchovy and Pilchard Fisheries, August-September 1964
	Ireland:	88 ..	Shrimp Explorations off Coast
75 ..	Government Answers Protests by Local Fishermen over Spanish Landings at Irish Port	89 ..	Harbors Being Improved to Help Fisheries Expand
	Ivory Coast:		South-West Africa:
75 ..	Fishery Development Plans being Realized	90 ..	New Spiny Lobster Grounds Explored off Coast
	Jamaica:	90 ..	New Fishing Firm Plans Purchase of Freezer-Stern Trawlers
76 ..	Fisheries Development Project Considered		Spain:
	Japan:	90 ..	Fishery Trends at Vigo, October-December 1964
76 ..	Frozen Tuna Export Quotas for FY 1965		U.S.S.R.:
76 ..	Export Validations of Frozen Tuna and Tuna Loins to U.S., January-November 1963-64	91 ..	Tuna Factoryships Built in Japan
77 ..	Tuna Fishing and Market Trends	91 ..	Canned King Crab Meat Production from Sea of Okhotsk, 1958-64
77 ..	Tuna Vessel Research Group to be Formed	92 ..	Canned Salmon Exports, 1963
78 ..	Tuna Mothership Fishery Trends in South Pacific	92 ..	Salmon Hybrid Announced by Soviets
78 ..	Tuna Purse-Seine Fleet off West Africa Reports Poor Fishing	93 ..	Soviet Trawling Activities off South Africa, October 1964
78 ..	Tuna Canners Adopt New Sales Procedure	93 ..	Freezer-Trawler <u>Golfstrim</u> Delivered to Soviets by Danish Shipyard
79 ..	Developments on Suspension of Canned Tuna Exports to United States		United Kingdom:
80 ..	Tuna Industry Urged to Reduce Reliance on Government Assistance	94 ..	New Semiautomated Stern Trawler <u>Ross Dainty</u> Launched
80 ..	Government Arbitrates Allocation of Bering Sea King Crab Production Quota	94 ..	British Firm Orders Two More Semiautomated Stern Trawlers
80 ..	Composition of Bering Sea Bottomfish Fleets		Viet-Nam:
81 ..	Trawler Fleets Depart for Bering Sea	95 ..	Fishery Trends, July-September 1964
81 ..	Seasonal Saury Fishery Disappointing		FEDERAL ACTIONS:
81 ..	Saury Fishery Trends		Department of Health, Education, and Welfare:
81 ..	Salmon Imports from Communist China		Food and Drug Administration:
81 ..	Herring Roe on Kelp Prove Popular	96 ..	Consumer Protection Stressed at Annual Conference
82 ..	Herring to be Imported from U.S.S.R.		Department of the Interior:
82 ..	Views on Soviet Fishing Expansion to New Fishing Grounds	96 ..	New Director and Deputy Director Appointed for Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
83 ..	Japanese Preparing for Northwest Pacific Fisheries Commission Meeting		Fish and Wildlife Service:
83 ..	Government May Ratify Two Conventions on Law of the Sea		Bureau of Commercial Fisheries:
83 ..	High-Seas Fishery Promotion Law Proposed	97 ..	Current Status of Fishery Resource Disaster Funds
83 ..	Fishing Company Obtains Large Loan	98 ..	Hearings on Applications for Fishing Vessel Construction Differential Subsidy
83 ..	Factoryship to Buy Pollock for Fish Meal from Soviet Fishing Vessels		

Contents continued page IV.

CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

Page		Page	
	FEDERAL ACTIONS (Contd.):		FEDERAL ACTIONS (Contd.):
	Interstate Commerce Commission:	100 . .	Eighty-Ninth Congress (First Session)
98 . .	Truck Detention Charges in Middle Atlantic Territory Proposed	106 . .	Eighty-Eighth Congress
	Department of Labor:		RECENT FISHERY PUBLICATIONS:
	Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions:	107 . .	Fish and Wildlife Service Publications
100 . .	Revised Wage Order Program for Industries in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and American Samoa Announced	109 . .	Miscellaneous Publications



PORTABLE CLOUD-MAKING MACHINE HELPS
CHECK GROWTH OF AQUATIC WEEDS

A portable machine that creates a constant underwater cloud has been developed to help halt the growth of troublesome aquatic weeds along shorelines. The apparatus, which contains a pump and a series of hoses with holes, uses water or air-pressure jets to agitate materials on the sea bed, thus creating a muddy cloud. The cloud shades the sea bottom from the sun, which is necessary for the germination and growth of aquatic weeds.

The cloud has to be maintained only during the early spring or summer in the germinating period of the weeds. Then the apparatus can be removed and the treated area will remain weed-free for the rest of the year.

The cloud-making machine, which was invented by a resident of Annapolis, Md. (Patent No. 3,151,463), can also spray liquid weed killers. (Science News Letter, October 24, 1964.)



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