

Blue whiting weight and length sampling protocol

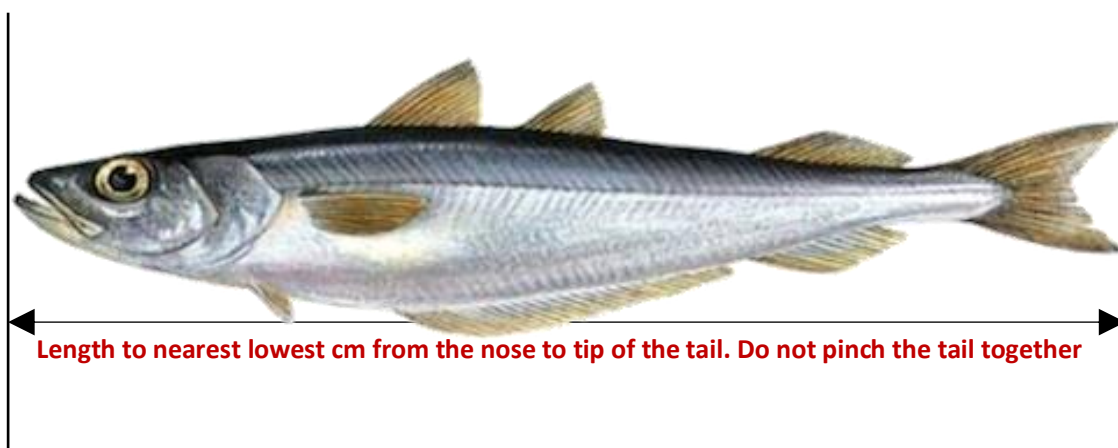
Why? Measuring both the weight and length of fish at the same time provides information on their growth that can be used in assessing the state of the stock.

When? A sample of weight and length should be taken from every haul, and the details of the haul recorded so that the date and position can be linked to the sample details. A sheet for recording the haul data is provided.

What? The sample needs to be representative of overall catch, so the sample needs to be taken at different times during pumping. We will use the start, middle and end.

How?

1. During pumping, take ~5 kg of fish (approx. 1/10th of a basket / roughly a layer of fish at the bottom of basket - see photo overleaf) at the start, middle and end, and put them to one side until the fishing work is done. The order of the baskets doesn't matter because all the fish will be weighed and measured. The three baskets together should be ~15 kg.
2. Take each fish and measure its length (see diagram) to the nearest lowest cm (for example, if it is 16.7cm, write down 16 cm. If its 15.4 cm, write down 15), then measure its weight in grams.
3. Record the measurements of all the fish in the basket on the recording sheet provided. Use a separate sheet for each haul.
4. Enter the data from the paper copy into the spreadsheet sent to the skipper. The file is called 'Length-Weight Data Entry sheet_SPFA.xlsx'



Blue whiting sample: take ~5 kg (approx. 1/10th basket)
at the start, middle and end of pumping



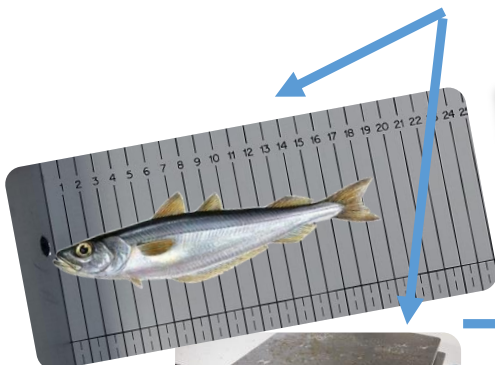
1/10th basket =
*roughly a layer of
fish at the bottom
of basket*



Mix into 1 basket (giving approx. 15 kg).



For every fish in the basket, measure and record
length to lowest 1cm, then weight in grams.



Length (cm)	Weight (g)
31	101
32	102
33	103
34	104
35	105
36	106
37	107
38	108
39	109
40	110
41	111
42	112
43	113
44	114
45	115
46	116
47	117
48	118
49	119
50	120
51	121
52	122
53	123
54	124
55	125
56	126
57	127
58	128
59	129
60	130
61	131
62	132
63	133
64	134
65	135
66	136
67	137
68	138
69	139
70	140
71	141
72	142
73	143
74	144
75	145
76	146
77	147
78	148
79	149
80	150
81	151
82	152
83	153
84	154
85	155
86	156
87	157
88	158
89	159
90	160
91	161
92	162
93	163
94	164
95	165
96	166
97	167
98	168
99	169
100	170

SPFA

