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English Mackerel Tagging Experiments 1962

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Two mackerel tagging experiments were undertaken in 1962. Working from a small inshore fishing boat in the area of Mount's Bay, Cornwall, 803 fish were tagged in the period 22nd-31st May and 1,066 in the period 3rd-17th July.

The mackerel were caught on feathers, and those which appeared undamaged were placed in a galvanised household cold water header tank which was half-filled with sea water. Before fitting the Lea and a modified version of it - the hydrostatic magnetic tag - by means of a Scottish one-man bridle attachment, each fish was examined for damage to its mouth parts. Only those which were lightly hooked either on the rim of the upper jaw or in the lower jaw were used. Fish which were bleeding freely were rejected. The results to date are as follows:-

<u>Liberated</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Recapture</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
24.5.62	Lea	8.5.63	Ling Bank	58°20'N.	2°30'E.
24.5.62	H.M.	10.10.62	Boulogne	50°22'N.	01°27'E.
28.5.62	H.M.	30.5.62	Wolf	49°50'N.	05°08'W.
28.5.62	Lea	4.9.62	N. Ireland	54°03'N.	05°57'W.
28.5.62	Lea	27.5.63	Land's End	50°0'N.	05°40'W.
28.5.62	Lea	26.7.62	Wexford, Eire	52°0'N.	06°40'W.
30.5.62	Lea	20.8.62	Royal Sovereign	50°35'N.	00°40'E.
4.7.62	Lea	30.7.62	Isle of Man	54°0'N.	05°00'W.
4.7.62	H.M.	8.9.62	Dun Laoghaire	53°19'N.	06°06'W.
6.7.62	Lea	9.10.62	Ballycottin, Eire	51°50'N.	08°00'W.
9.7.62	H.M.	21.6.63	St. Ives, Cornwall	50°13'N.	05°27'W.
12.7.62	Lea	3.7.63	Plymouth	50°40'N.	04°15'W.
12.7.62	H.M.	14.9.62	Mount's Bay, Cornwall	50°02'N.	05°39'W.
16.7.62	Lea	28.8.62	Galway, Eire	53°15'N.	09°06'W.
16.7.62	H.M.	10.10.62	St. Bees Head, Cumberland	54°18'N.	03°50'W.