

October 2021

Bilateral Agreement between ILVO Marine, Belgium and SwAM, Sweden, for the collection of length and age samples collected in the IBTS survey in accordance with Commission Delegated Decision (EU) 2021/1167 and Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1168, laying down detailed rules for the application Regulation (EU) 2017/1004.

Agreement:

This agreement has been established to optimize and exchange the age reading expertise for species collected in the IBTS survey. A list of species are collected during the survey according to the Manual for the International Bottom Trawl Surveys ICES. 2020. Manual for the North Sea International Bottom Trawl Surveys. Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 10-IBTS 10, Revision 11. 102 pp.

For some species only a small amount are caught and there is a need for collaboration and task sharing. No additional sampling costs are involved and costs for analysis will be covered in the National Work plan 2022-2024.

Description of sampling:

Age samples will be collected during the IBTS survey according to the manual. Sweden will sample otoliths of Sole which will be stored in paper bags (with relevant data as agreed between the responsible readers and needed for the reading) and sent to Belgium for age reading.

Sampling Intensity:

Sole (*Solea solea*) - Sweden sends the otoliths collected during the IBTS q1 and q3 survey to Belgium for age reading. App 50 individuals per year. Belgium sends the results of the age readings together with the otoliths at the latest in December each year.

Data responsibility:

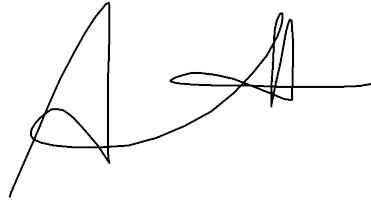
Sweden is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework.

Contact persons:

For Sweden: Barbara Bland (barbara.bland@slu.se) +46 10 478 4013

For Belgium: Karen Bekaert (karen.bekaert@ilvo.vlaanderen.be) +32 59 56 98 55

Signatures:



Els Torreele
National Correspondent Belgium
Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research

els.torreele@ilvo.vlaanderen.be

www.ilvo.vlaanderen.be

Anna Hasslow
National Correspondent Sweden
Swedish Agency for Marine and
Water Management

anna.hasslow@havochvatten.se

www.havochvatten.se