



NOAA Teacher at Sea
Lollie Garay
Onboard Research Vessel *Hugh R. Sharp*
May 9 – 20, 2009

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Lollie Garay

Ship: Research Vessel *Hugh R. Sharp*

Mission: Sea Scallop Survey

Geographical Area: North Atlantic

Date: Friday, May 15, 2009

Weather Data from the Bridge

Temperature: 13.5°C

True wind: 4.1 KT

Seas: 3-4 ft

Science and Technology Log

We've been at sea for seven days now and the daily sampling continues. Winds are not as strong as yesterday and we're all glad. Skies are overcast and a thick fog surrounds us. Nothing out of the ordinary occurred today. By the time our shift ended we had completed 9 sampling stations. The majority of the dredges brought up were full of sand dollars. Lots of sand dollars mean slimy green secretions all over everything! Live sand



See the green secretions around the Sand dollars and the Jonah Crab?

dollars have a felt-like coating of fine spines. They shuffle through loose sand and feed on diatoms and microorganisms. Flounders and other bottom fishes feed on them. Their color is highly soluble and stains.



Lollie and Larry Brady measure special samples in the wet lab.

I'll continue my conversations about my day shift crew. Larry Brady is a Biological Science Technician with the NOAA Fisheries Service. A former business manager with McGraw-Hill, he began volunteering with the Northeast Region

Fisheries Services Sandy Hooks Lab in New Jersey. He found he really enjoyed what he did. One thing led to another and he has now been with the NOAA fisheries for 9 years. His responsibilities include maintaining the FSCS hardware and auditing data.

Dr. Shayla D. Williams is a research chemist at the Howard Marine Science Laboratory in Sandy Hook, New Jersey. She is researching fatty acid



Gary Pearson sorts out the fish after a catch.

chemical tracers in two Northeast fisheries key

resource species: Summer Flounders and Black Sea Bass. Fatty acids are a reflection of one's diet. As Dr. Williams says, "You are what you eat."



Dr. Shayla Williams rakes the catch for sorting.

Gary Pearson is on his first survey cruise. Formerly with the Massachusetts Military Reservation, 102nd Fighter Wing division, he has been with the NOAA Fisheries Service maintenance department for three years. Gary works with just about every physical aspect of this survey, except for data entry.

Personal Log

As the night shift came on duty tonight, "Doc" A.J. told me that he had sandwiched his head between pillows to keep from rolling around and slept just fine through the tempestuous day. So, once I finally got to my bunk I thought about what he said. I only had one pillow, but I did have my life jacket. So, I tucked myself between the life jacket and the wall. He was right! I didn't roll either and slept all through the night!



These are the kind of waves the roll the ship!

New Animals Seen Today

Spiny Dogfish (2)

Pipe fish



A Pipe Fish