



PELAGIC FREEZER-  
TRAWLER ASSOCIATION

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## Succesfull contribution of PFA to tri-annual Mackerel and Horse mackerel egg survey 2016

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From 10 till 25 May IMARES carried out a mackerel and horse mackerel egg survey on board the FV Atlantic Lady H190. This research was commissioned by the by the PFA as part of the international mackerel and horse mackerel egg survey coordinated by ICES. Five researchers and nine crew members were on board of the vessel.

Due to the excellent weather circumstances during the survey was successful and this demonstrates that fishing vessels are a suitable platform for a plankton survey, although in bad weather situations a smaller vessel like the Atlantic Lady could limit the survey execution due to lower stability.

Of the 89 planned plankton stations 85 were sampled. During the survey it was possible to sort and analyse all samples on board. Also a first check of sorting of the samples was carried out. Further quality control will be carried in the laboratory.

Both crew and researchers were positive about the joint experience and welcomed the possibility to learn about each others practices.



