

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL

**Bulletin — Boletín
Vol. VIII, No. 4**

**SIZE AND YEAR CLASS COMPOSITION OF CATCH, AGE
AND GROWTH OF YELLOWFIN TUNA IN THE EASTERN
TROPICAL PACIFIC OCEAN, 1951-1961**

**COMPOSICION DEL TAMAÑO Y DE LAS CLASES ANUALES
DE LA PESCA, EDAD Y CRECIMIENTO DEL ATUN ALETA
AMARILLA EN EL OCEANO PACIFICO ORIENTAL
TROPICAL, 1951-1961**

**by — por
EDWIN B. DAVIDOFF**

**La Jolla, California
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**SIZE AND YEAR CLASS COMPOSITION OF CATCH, AGE AND
GROWTH OF YELLOWFIN TUNA IN THE EASTERN
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by

Edwin B. Davidoff

SUMMARY

Analysis of yellowfin tuna size-composition data encompassing data for purse-seiners and baitboats, and including data collected prior to the Commission's sampling program, has permitted a more careful examination of variations in growth rates of yellowfin year classes.

Modes from size-composition data collected from purse-seiners were compared with those obtained from baitboat samples. Covariance analysis indicated that regression lines computed for identical year classes from both sources of data were similar in slope and elevation, and both sets of data could be combined. Therefore, size-composition samples obtained from both types of fishing gear have been used to supplement each other throughout this analysis.

Statistical studies of the growth rate of yellowfin tuna during the 11-year period 1951-1961 indicated (1) significant differences in the growth rate of different year classes in the same area; (2) growth of an individual year class during a specific year is usually similar throughout all fishing areas; (3) yellowfin of the same year class and age in different areas differ significantly in total length. These conclusions are similar to those of Hennemuth (1961) who analyzed a shorter series of data collected from baitboats. However, these conclusions differ with respect to the growth rate of different year classes within the same area.

Examination of surface-water temperatures and the growth rates of individual yellowfin year classes in the same area indicated a non-significant relationship. Thus, the significant differences in growth rate of individual year classes within the same area are not correlated with changes in surface-water temperature but are probably the result of other environmental factors.

Comparison of the growth rate of yellowfin by each sex indicates that male and female yellowfin have essentially the same growth rate, at least up to about 130 cm. Data for yellowfin beyond this size were too limited for comparison of growth between sexes.

The Von Bertalanffy equation, which is used for describing size at age, was computed employing all available yellowfin data from the five northern areas. The resultant equation is

$$L = 167 [1 - e^{-0.05(t-10)}]$$

The three parameters $K(0.05)$, L_∞ (167 cm.) and t_0 (10 months) are essentially identical to those determined by Hennemuth (1961), who, for Area 02 calculated values of 0.05, 169 and 10, respectively. His estimate was based on baitboat data for the X54-X56 year classes whereas the new estimate is based on combined baitboat and purse-seine data for the X51-X61 year classes.

Yellowfin begin entering the fishery when they are approximately one year old. A minimum legal size of 55 cm. (7.5 lb.) in California controls the size at which this age group first enters the catch. Fishing selectivity causes the modal size of this age group to be overestimated during the first few months it is present in the fishery. At two years of age, yellowfin average 84 cm. (26 lb.) at three years 121 cm. (80 lb.) and at four years 142 cm. (129 lb.). Yellowfin older than four years are not caught by the fishery in appreciable numbers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is indebted to the California State Fisheries Laboratory for making available data on the size composition of yellowfin measured during the years 1951-1954, prior to the initiation of our own sampling program.

These data and those collected from 1959-1961 were processed on the I.B.M. 7090 digital computer at the Western Data Processing Center at the University of California, Los Angeles. Utilization of the BIMD 20 computer program (Analysis of Covariance, No. 2) prepared by the Division of Biostatistics, Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, permitted rapid statistical analysis of these data.

The use of this computer and the assistance of the programming and operating staffs of the Center is most gratefully acknowledged.

Acknowledgment is due to the many members of the fishing industry, tuna boat owners, skippers, engineers, fishermen, cannery owners and employees for their kind cooperation in supplying information.

The author also wishes to thank the many staff members of the Commission for their assistance in collecting size-composition samples, especi-

ally: Craig J. Orange, San Pedro; Robert Umlor, San Diego; Antonio Landa, Peru. Mr. Umlor provided great assistance in tabulating data and calculating growth rates.

INTRODUCTION

Research studies to estimate the vital statistics (age, rate of growth, mortality rates and variation in year-class strength) of the tunas are essential for understanding the biology and population dynamics of the tunas. The knowledge gained from these investigations provides part of the basic information required by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission to fulfill its obligations under the Convention. The Commission is required to determine the maximum equilibrium catch and to recommend conservation regulations, when required, to maintain the stocks of tuna at levels which permit maximum sustainable harvest year after year.

Rate of growth is one of the important vital statistics which determine the dynamics of a population. This important aspect may be investigated by observing the temporal changes in size composition of the populations as reflected by the catch. For this purpose, and others, the Commission commenced in 1954 to collect data on the monthly size composition of catch by geographical sub-areas.

The methodology of determining size and year-class composition of catch, and age and growth rate of yellowfin tuna in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean for the years 1954-1958 has been published by Hennemuth (1961). The size-composition data have been extended to include data for 1951-1954, not previously available, and data for 1959-1961, collected subsequently to Hennemuth's publication.

It is desirable to analyze the long-term series of data, which include data from purse-seiners in addition to that from baitboats, to recompute growth rates and examine more closely the variation in growth rates of yellowfin tuna. This paper reports the results of such studies incorporating data covering the 11-year period 1951-1961.

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING

Size-composition samples from the commercial landings of yellowfin tuna during the years 1951-1954 were collected and tabulated by gear, year, area and month of capture, by personnel of the California State Fisheries Laboratory. Subsequent data were collected by personnel of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. Methods of collection are described in detail by Hennemuth (1957).

In general, the California State Fisheries Laboratory areas correspond quite well with those of the Commission's market measurement sampling program. Certain regroupings of the areas employed by the California State Fisheries Laboratory were necessary in order to have them correspond as closely as possible with those of the Commission. These groupings are shown in Table 1, and the geographical limits of the Commission's 14 market measurement areas in Figure 1. Because it was not possible to separate the California State Fisheries Laboratory size-composition samples from Mexican and Central American waters into Commission Areas 03 and 04, and 05 and 10, respectively (Table 1), the California State Fisheries Laboratory data for fish from Mexican waters were assigned to IATTC Area 04, and the Central American data were assigned to Area 05.

Length measurements collected by the California State Fisheries Laboratory were originally grouped by 10 mm. intervals. These were regrouped by 20 mm. intervals to correspond with the Commission's method of tabulation.

After these modifications, the 1951-1954 California State Fisheries Laboratory data were transferred to I.B.M. cards, from which were calculated, by computer, the monthly percentage, smoothed percentage, and cumulative percentage length-frequency distributions of yellowfin tuna comprising the commercial catch. Size-composition data collected by the Commission were processed similarly, except that all samples from the same gear, year, month and area were combined before processing.

Data for yellowfin measured during the years 1951-1954 will be found in California State Fisheries Laboratory records, while those sampled by Commission personnel during 1954-1958 are present in Hennemuth's (1961) publication. The monthly length-frequency distributions of yellowfin tuna measured during the years 1959-1961 are shown in Table 2 by area and gear. Also shown are the numbers of fish measured and the number of individual samples comprising each monthly length-frequency distribution. Excellent correspondence was evident between the locations and dates of collection of size-composition data and charts depicting the geographical distribution of yellowfin catches by quarter of the year (Allverson, 1960).

METHODS OF ANALYSIS

Treatment of baitboat and purse-seiner data

During the years 1951-1958 the baitboats landed the major share of the catch of yellowfin tuna from the Eastern Tropical Pacific, while that taken by the purse-seiners was minor. However, in 1959, with the conversion of many baitboats to seiners, the seiner catch increased to half

the total annual catch of yellowfin. Since 1960, the purse-seine fleet has landed the major share of the total annual catch (Broadhead, 1962), and the majority of length-frequency samples have been collected from purse-seiners.

Size-composition data collected from purse-seiners were compared with those collected from baitboats to determine whether both types of data could be combined to provide better estimates of the growth rate of yellowfin.

Year-class identification, age and growth

The methodology of identifying and tracing modes of year classes through their existence in the commercial fishery has been described in detail by Hennemuth (1961). His study demonstrated that the monthly length-frequency distributions of catch were composed of one or more distinct size groups of fish, which, in most cases, represented age groups. Furthermore, age groups of a particular year class could be traced through successive months and years in which they made a significant contribution to the fishery, or a period of about three years.

The monthly length-frequency distributions in most cases, are composed of definite successive size groups. A primary and secondary series may enter the catch each year approximately six months out of phase with the other; these are denoted by prefixing an X or Y, respectively, to their actual or presumed year of entry following the procedure of Hennemuth (1961). The primary (X) series is the first group to enter the catch and comprises the most abundant group in all areas except Area 05 where both X and Y series are present in about equal abundance. In all other areas the Y series occur sporadically and may be identifiable only a short period of time. Hennemuth has shown that the X series possess the required attributes of year classes and may be considered such; accordingly, only data from the X groups have been utilized in statistical studies of the growth rate of yellowfin tuna.

To facilitate statistical comparison of both sets of data, each of the primary (X) year-class curves was segmented into calendar years, and monthly modal lengths of each year class within each year were fitted by linear regression. The slope and calculated mid-year length were assumed to represent growth rate and average length, respectively. The calendar year of recruitment was termed stanza N, the second calendar year (first complete calendar year in the fishery) termed stanza N+1, etc. following Hennemuth's procedure.

The length-frequency distributions comprise tuna which range from 50-170 cm. in fork length (6 to 224 lb.); however, most fish were less than

one meter in length. The lower limit is controlled in California by a minimum legal weight of 7.5 lb., which corresponds to a calculated total length of 55 cm.

The central tendency of size groups was emphasized by smoothing the percentage length-frequencies with a moving average of three intervals, giving the center interval double weight. Hennemuth's criteria for the selection of the maxima of the smoothed frequencies were used in this study, with one additional restriction: modes presumed to be of the same year class but with a six month gap between their occurrence in the monthly length frequencies were not connected. Growth rates were calculated only for those modes which occurred prior to the gap in data (Table 4), except in some cases where they had been previously identified and connected by Hennemuth (*ibid.*).

A separate analysis was made of the data from each sampling area. Smoothed length-frequency curves representing the size composition of monthly catches in each area by type of gear were drawn wherever sufficient data were available, and were examined in detail.

RESULTS

Comparison of yellowfin growth rates calculated from purse-seiner and baitboat samples

Modes from size-composition data collected from purse-seiners were compared with those obtained from baitboat samples to determine whether both sources of data could be combined to provide better estimates of the growth rate of yellowfin. These data were first compared graphically (Figure 2) for Area 02, an area which provided the most observations. Examination of this figure suggests the modal length and time of occurrence of size groups as determined from both sources of data are similar. Further analysis was made by computing regression lines for identical primary (X) year classes in Area 02 obtained from both sources of data, and comparing them by covariance analysis. These analyses indicated that regression lines computed for identical year classes from both sources of data were similar in slope and elevation and both sets of data could be combined (Table 3). Therefore, size-composition samples obtained from both types of fishing gear have been used to supplement each other and to provide better estimates of the growth rate of yellowfin. In those areas and months where size-composition samples were available from both types of fishing gear, modes of identical year classes were averaged and the average value employed in the analysis of growth rates.

Growth rate

Figures 3 and 4 compare the growth curves of the X51-X61 year classes in all areas based on all available data. Good agreement was evi-

dent between the 1951-1954 and 1959-1961 data and those data for the years 1954-1958 analyzed by Hennemuth (1961), in that modes of year classes identified by Hennemuth corresponded with modes of the same year class at younger and older ages respectively. These figures also show that the monthly modal lengths of age groups of the same year class are similar in all areas, with the exception of the X57 year class which, in the same months of capture are, on the average, smaller in size in the Northern Areas (01-04, and 08) than in the Southern Areas. Inspection of Figures 3 and 4 suggests that variation in growth rate is greater among different primary or X year classes in the same area than that among the same year class in different areas. These data are discussed below in greater detail by individual growth stanzas.

Table 4 lists the monthly modal lengths of the primary year classes by area and month of capture. These data were segmented into calendar years and the monthly modal lengths of each year class within each calendar year fitted by linear regressions. The slope and calculated mid-year length were assumed to represent growth rate and average length respectively.

Two single classification analyses of covariance comparing (1) different year classes within the same area during the same growth stanza and (2) the same year class in different areas were made to determine whether growth was similar within areas and/or year classes. Comparison of rates of growth of the same year class in different areas were limited to stanzas $N+1$ and $N+2$ as measurements of apparent growth during stanza N are minimal due to the effect of fishing selectivity, *viz.*, fishermen at certain times of the year catch yellowfin of legal and sub-legal weight and discard those which are below the legal weight limit of 7.5 lb. (approximately 55 cm. in total length). The size-composition data reflect this phenomenon by the modes of incoming year classes remaining stationary near 55 or 56 cm. for several months, or by increasing only slightly from month to month (Table 4).

Growth rate of stanza N group

Covariance analysis of the growth rates of different year classes within the same area during stanza N are summarized in Table 5.

These analyses indicate significant differences in growth rate of different year classes in Areas 01, 05, 06 and 07. Significant differences in adjusted mean length were evident in Areas 02, 03 and 13. The estimated average growth rate for each area was obtained from the common regression line. These values ranged from 1.0 cm. to 2.1 cm. per month and are minimal because of fishing selectivity.

Growth rate of stanza N+1 group

Similar analyses during stanza $N+1$ are also summarized in Table 5. Of the ten comparisons among different year classes within the same area, all but two areas, 01 and 08, exhibited significant differences in growth rate among year classes. Of the two areas where no differences in growth rates were shown, a significant difference in adjusted mean length was evident in one (Area 01).

Comparing the growth rate of the same year class in different areas, seven of the ten comparisons indicated similarity in growth throughout all areas of the fishery, the exceptions being X53, X57 and X60 year classes. Thus there is greater similarity in growth among the same year class in different areas than there is among different year classes in the same area. These differences may be artificial; the result of picking out and comparing short segments of the growth curve or the effect of selective fishing, or they may be real: the result of environmental or genetic factors. It is the present opinion of the author that growth is essentially similar throughout all areas of the fishery and that the differences in growth among areas are artificial.

Significant differences in calculated mid-year lengths of the same year class in different areas were evident for the X51, X54, X55, X58 and X59 year classes. Only two year classes, the X52 and X56, indicated no significant difference in adjusted mean length thus indicating that the regression lines of the X52 and X56 year classes are similar in all areas.

Growth rate of stanza N+2 group

Analyses for stanza $N+2$ were limited because of the small amount of data available. Comparison of the growth rates of different year classes within the same area were made in Areas 01 and 02. Covariance analysis of Area 01 data indicated no significant difference in growth rate but significant differences in adjusted mean length (Table 5). A similar analysis of Area 02 data indicated significant differences in growth rate.

Comparison of growth rates of the same year class in different areas could only be made for the X54, X56 and X57 year classes. Covariance analysis indicated that the regression lines of the X54 and X56 year classes were similar in all areas while the growth rates of the X57 year class were significantly different.

Growth rate of stanza N+3 group

Analysis of growth during stanza $N+3$ was limited to the X54 year class in Area 02. This year class showed a growth rate of 1.1 cm. per month and a calculated mid-year length of 140.8 cm. (Table 5).

Relationship between growth rate and surface-water temperature

To examine the relationship between growth rate and surface-water temperature, the calculated growth rates of individual year classes were plotted against annual mean surface-water temperatures. Growth rates during stanza $N+1$ for Areas 04 and 05, which had the most numerous data, were compared with temperatures at Manzanillo, and Costa Rica, respectively. Surface-water temperatures were obtained by averaging the monthly temperatures in Areas 10 and 26 of Broadhead and Barrett's (1963) publication. No relationship between surface-water temperature and growth rate was evident in either area, indicating that the significant differences in growth rates of individual year classes were not correlated with differences in annual mean temperature. Differences in growth rate may be the result of other environmental factors *viz.*, food supply.

Comparison of growth rate of each sex

It has been observed, both in the Eastern Pacific and elsewhere, that the larger and older fish tend to be predominantly males. This could be due either to a more rapid rate of growth of male fish, or to a higher mortality rate of females. To investigate this, and to provide data for similar studies of skipjack, the Commission commenced in 1959, to collect additional information on both the size and sex composition of yellowfin and skipjack tuna comprising the commercial catch, the primary purpose being to determine the growth rate of each sex.

Our most adequate time series of data are from yellowfin caught in Area 05. These samples were obtained from both baitboat and purse-seine caught fish. Comparison of the sex ratios of yellowfin caught by the two types of gear during the second quarter of 1960 indicates that the purse-seiners caught a slightly higher percentage of males than baitboats. The greater percentage of males was particularly noticeable in the older age groups. On the whole, purse-seiners caught a larger percentage of the older age groups of both sexes and conversely the baitboats caught a larger percentage of the younger age groups of both sexes. However, for purposes of comparing growth between sexes the differences between baitboat and purse-seine data are inconsequential. Therefore, the size composition data for both types of gear were combined to provide larger samples to compare the growth by sex in each year class. The modal progressions for the two sexes from several year classes have been plotted in Figure 5. It is obvious from this figure that male and female yellowfin have essentially the same growth rate, at least up to about 130 cm. Data for yellowfin beyond this size (dashed lines) are too few for comparison of growth between sexes.

Summary of statistical studies

In general, the growth rate of different year classes within the same area is significantly different, whereas growth of an individual year class during a specific year is similar throughout all fishing areas. However, yellowfin of the same year class and age in different areas differ significantly in total length. These conclusions are similar to those of Henne-muth (1961) who analyzed a shorter series of data. However, these conclusions differ with respect to the growth rate of different year classes within the same area.

Surface-water temperatures in Areas 04 and 05 were examined to determine whether the significant differences in growth rates of yellowfin year classes within these areas were related to changes in surface-water temperature. No significant relationship was evident.

Comparison of the growth rates of yellowfin by each sex indicated that male and female yellowfin have essentially the same growth rate, at least up to about 130 cm. Data for yellowfin beyond this size were too few for comparison of growth between sexes.

Von Bertalanffy growth curve

The previous statistical analyses are useful for comparing growth of individual year classes within calendar years. However, it is desirable to present a continuous relationship of length or weight with age representative of yellowfin in the Eastern Tropical Pacific, and in a form which may be readily incorporated into yield-per-recruit models. A growth equation which satisfactorily meets these requirements has been formulated by Von Bertalanffy.

The derivation of the curve is described by Beverton and Holt (1957). This equation gives a satisfactory representation of the growth of fish and is based on physiological concepts (metabolism of the organism) and therefore may be used to investigate problems such as the variation of growth with food supply.

The equation for the Von Bertalanffy curve is

$$l_t = L_\infty [1 - e^{-K(t-t_0)}]$$

where l_t is the length at age t , which is determined by the two parameters K (growth rate) and L_∞ (asymptotic length). The parameter t_0 (apparent age at length zero) determines the position of the curve with respect to the observed points.

The Von Bertalanffy equation was computed employing all available yellowfin data from Areas 01-04 and 08, which had the most numerous data throughout the whole size range of tuna. Corresponding monthly

modal lengths of the same year class in different areas were combined by averaging. The resultant year-class values were then averaged over all year classes to obtain overall mean monthly values (Table 6). This table contains the basic data from which the Von Bertalanffy curve was computed. Hennemuth's (1961) estimate of 20 months as the age of initial, fully recruited age groups in Area 02 was employed in determining the age of yellowfin. Procedures essentially followed those of Beverton and Holt (1957) except that Bartlett's (1949) method of fitting a line, where both variables are subject to error, was employed for calculating the parameters K (growth rate), L_∞ (asymptotic length) and t_o (apparent age at length zero).

The equation computed for yellowfin in the Northern Areas is

$$L = 167 [1 - e^{-0.05(t-10)}]$$

and the curve is shown graphically in Figure 6.

Yellowfin enter the fishery when they are approximately one year old. A minimum legal limit of 55 cm. (7.5 lb.) in California controls the size at which age groups first enter the catch. Fishing selectivity causes the model size of age groups to be over-estimated during the first few months they are present in the fishery.

The three parameters K (0.05), L_∞ (167 cm.) and t_o (10 months) are essentially identical to those determined by Hennemuth (1961) who, for Area 02 calculated values of 0.05, 169 and 10, respectively. His estimate was based on baitboat data for the X54-X56 year classes, whereas the new estimate is based on combined baitboat and purse-seine data for the X51-X61 year classes. Weights for lengths at various ages were calculated using Chatwin's (1959) length-weight equation $W = 3.894 \times 10^{-8} L^{3.020}$. At two years of age yellowfin average 84 cm. (26 lb.), at three years 121 cm. (80 lb.) and at four years 142 cm. (129 lb.). Yellowfin older than four years are not caught by the fishery in appreciable numbers.

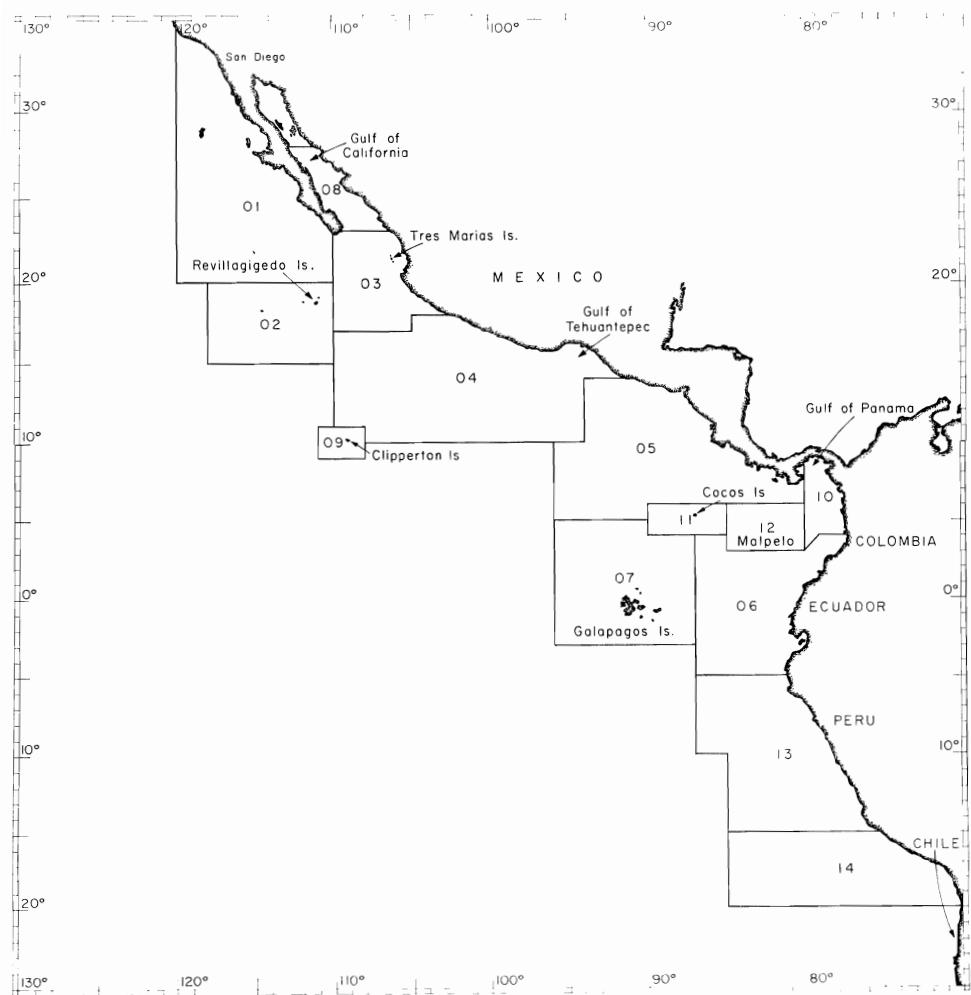


FIGURE 1. Geographical boundaries of market measurement sampling areas.

FIGURA 1. Límites geográficos de las áreas de muestreo de las medidas del mercado.

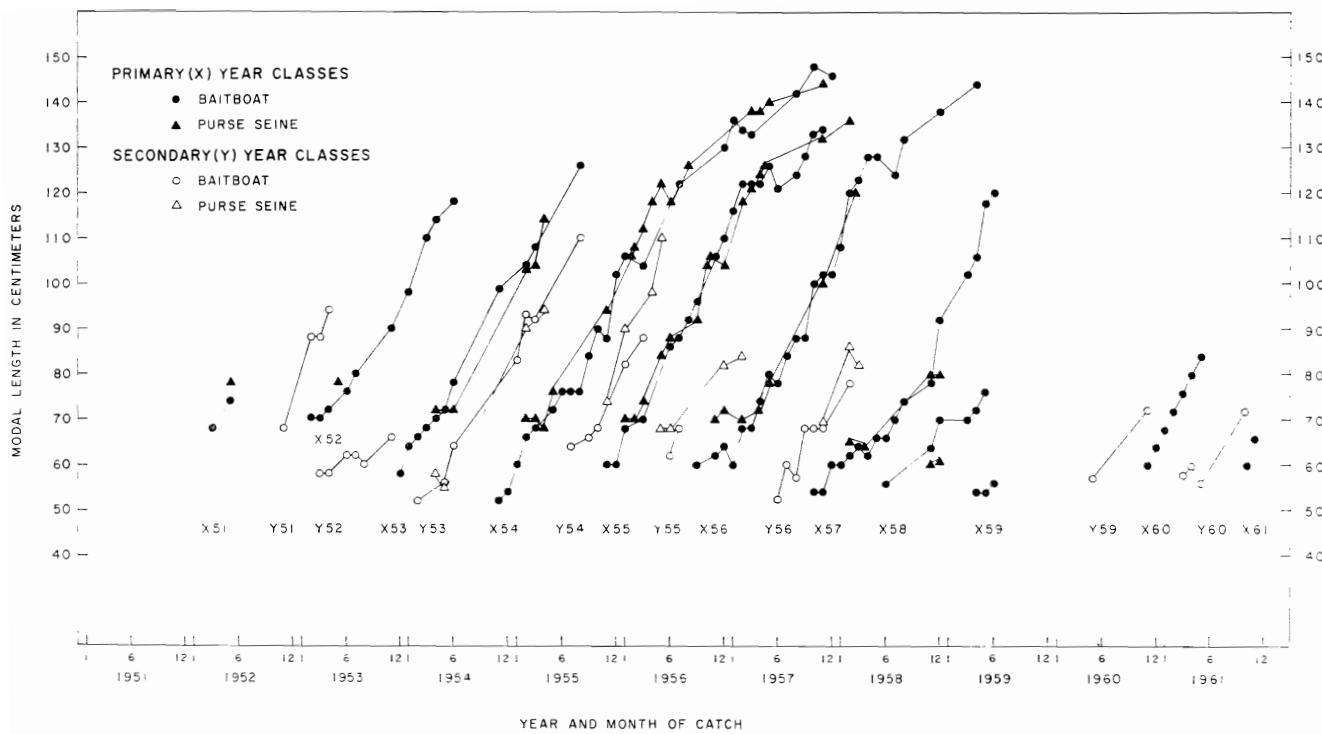


FIGURE 2. Comparison of modal lengths of size groups in baitboat and purse-seine catches in Area 02.

FIGURA 2. Comparación de las longitudes modales de los grupos de tamaño de las capturas de los barcos de carnada y rederos en el Área 02.

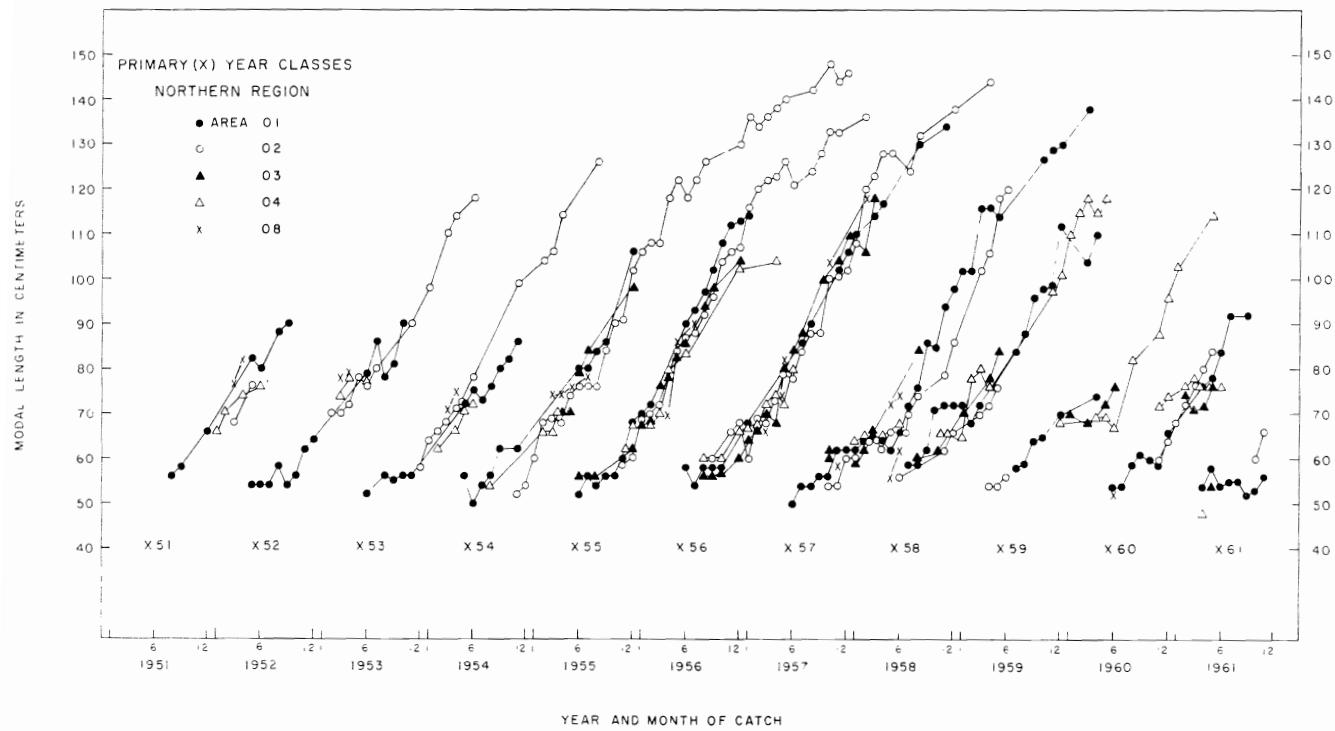


FIGURE 3. Comparison of modal progressions of yellowfin year classes X51-X61 in the Northern Areas.

FIGURA 3. Comparación de las progresiones modales de las clases anuales X51-X61 del atún aleta amarilla en las áreas del norte.

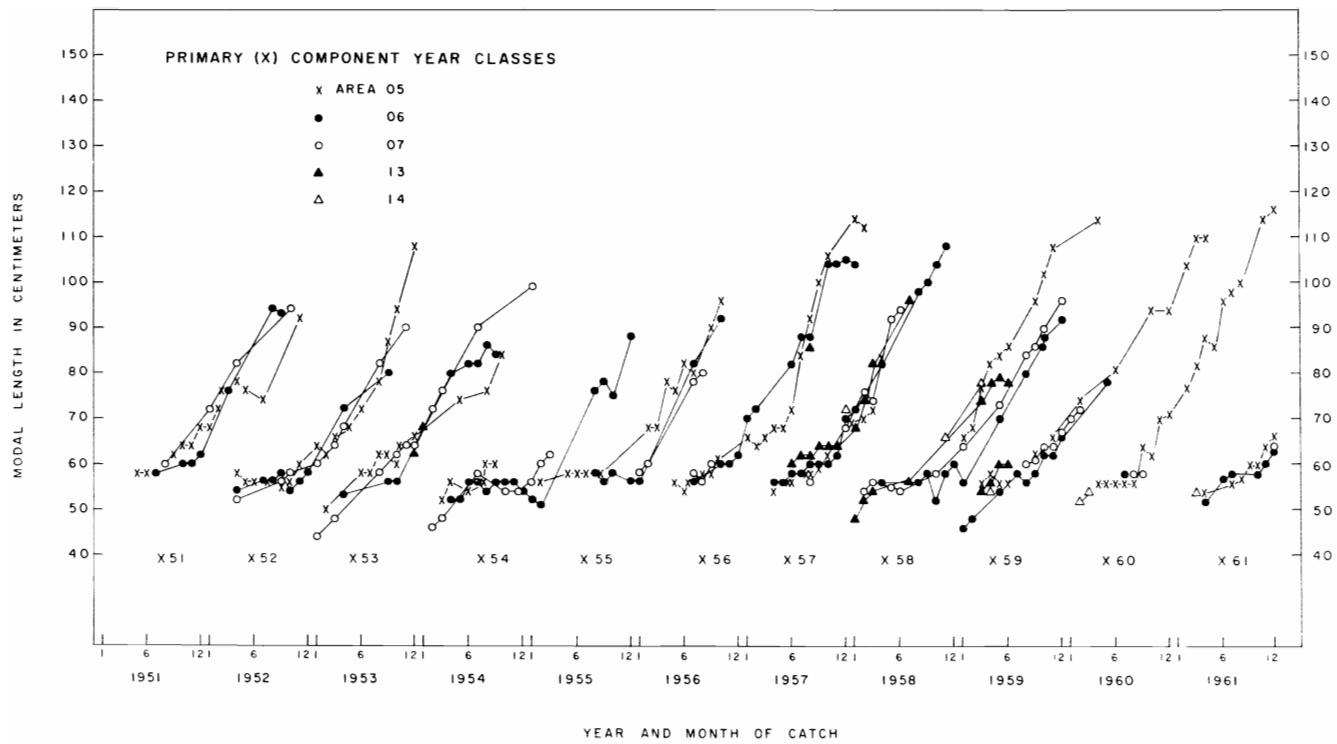


FIGURE 4. Comparison of modal progressions of yellowfin year classes X51-X61 in Areas 05, 06, 07, 13 and 14.
FIGURA 4. Comparación de las progresiones modales de las clases anuales X51-X61 del atún aleta amarilla en las Areas 05, 06, 07, 13 y 14.

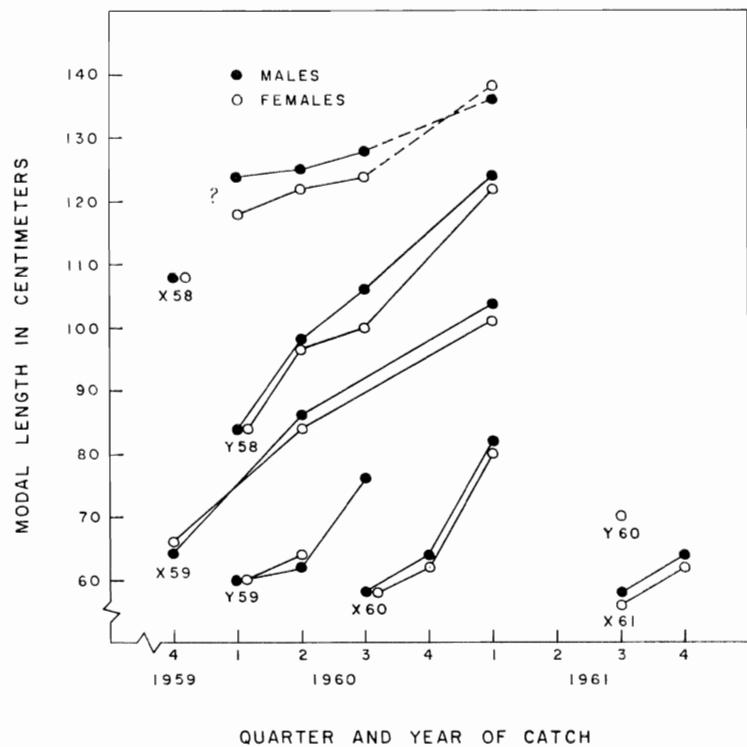


FIGURE 5. Comparison of growth of sexes of yellowfin tuna in Area 05.

FIGURA 5. Comparación del crecimiento de los sexos del atún aleta amarilla en el Área 05.

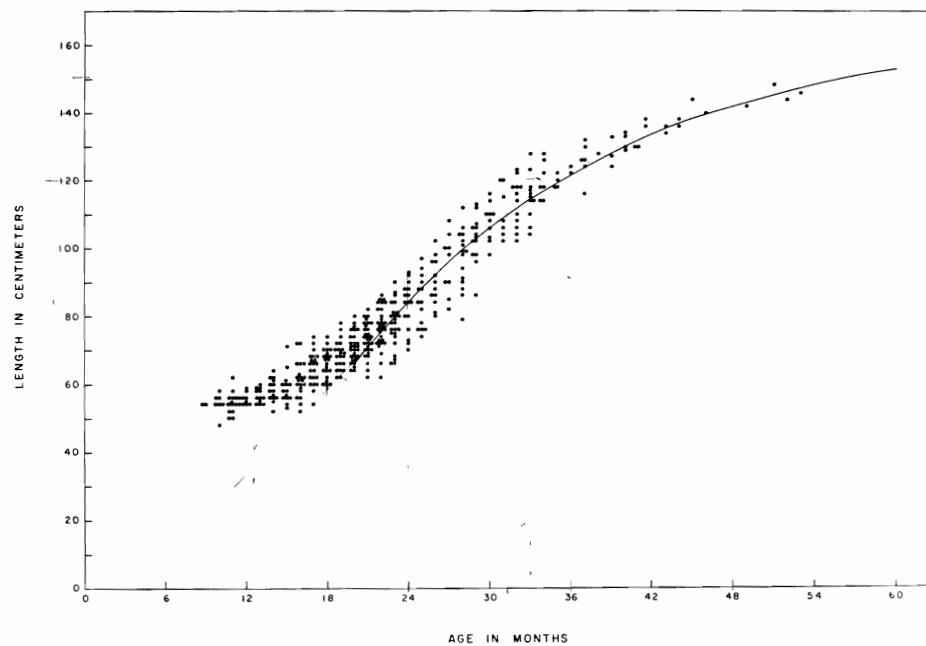


FIGURE 6. Modal lengths of yellowfin year classes X51-X61 in the Northern Areas and computed Von Bertalanffy growth curve.

FIGURA 6. Longitudes modales de las clases anuales X51-X61 del atún aleta amarilla en las áreas del norte, y la curva del crecimiento computada de la ecuación de Von Bertalanffy.

TABLE 1. Comparison of California State statistical areas and Commission sampling areas.**TABLA 1.** Comparación de las áreas estadísticas del Estado de California con las áreas de muestreo de la Comisión.

| California statistical areas Areas estadísticas del Estado de California | Tuna Comm. Market meas. areas Areas del programa de mediciones en los mercados de la Comisión |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| So. Calif., Morro Bay to Border | 631 to Border |
| No. Baja Calif. | 911 |
| So. Baja Calif. | 921 |
| Alijos Rocks | 926 |
| Revillagigedo Is. | 936 |
| Mexico | 931, 942 |
| Central America | 943, 944, 952 |
| Ecuador-Colombia | 953, 954 |
| Guayaquil | 962 |
| Galapagos Is. | 957 |
| Gulf of California | 929 |
| Clipperton Is. | 946 |
| Cocos Is. | 956 |
| Malpelo Is. | 955 |
| No. Peru | 963 |
| So. Peru | 964 |

TABLE 2. Length frequencies of monthly yellowfin tuna catches by type of gear and area of catch for the years 1959-1961; n = number of fish, d = number of samples, BB = baitboat, PS = purse-seiner.

TABLA 2. Frecuencias de las longitudes de las capturas mensuales de atún aleta amarilla, por equipo de pesca y área de captura para los años 1959-1961; n = número de peces, d = número de muestras, BB = barcos de carnada, PS = barcos redeiros.

TABLE 2. (Continued)

| Year | 1959 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1960 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| Area | 01 | | | | | | | | | | | | 02 | | | | | | 03 | | | | | | 04 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Month | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 08 | 09 | 09 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 01 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 01 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 11 | 11 | | | | | | | |
| Gear | BB | BB | BB | BB | PS | PS | BB | BB | PS | BB | PS | BB | PS | BB | PS | BB | BB | PS | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | PS | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | PS | PS | | | | | | | | |
| 1200 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1220 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1240 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1260 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1280 | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1300 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1320 | | 1 | 2 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1340 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1360 | | | 3 | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1380 | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1400 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1420 | | | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1440 | | | 1 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1460 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1480 | | 1 | 2 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1500 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1520 | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1540 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1560 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1580 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1600 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1620 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1640 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1660 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1680 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1700 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| n | 151 | 393 | 100 | 50 | 200 | 850 | 50 | 350 | 700 | 600 | 649 | 650 | 350 | 500 | 298 | 350 | 150 | 350 | 50 | 50 | 400 | 400 | 600 | 90 | 50 | 150 | 50 | 400 | 400 | 100 | 200 | 200 | 650 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 200 | 400 | 700 | | |
| d | 3 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 17 | 1 | 7 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 7 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 13 | 2 | 1 |

TABLE 2. (Continued)

AGE AND GROWTH OF YELLOWFIN TUNA

TABLE 2. (Continued)

DAVIDOFF

TABLE 2. (Continued)

TABLE 2. (Continued)

DAVID H.

TABLE 2. (Continued)

AGE AND GROWTH OF YELLOWFIN TUNA

TABLE 2. (Continued)

DAVIDOFF

TABLE 2. (Continued)

| Year | 1960 | | | | | 1960 | | | | | 1960 | | | | | 1960 | | | | | 1960 | | | | | 1961 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|-----|-----|----|----|------|-------|----|-----|-----|------|-------|----|----|----|------|-------|-----|---------|----|------|-------|----|----|----|-------|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Area | | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 01 03 | | 04 | 05 | 06 | 01 02 | | 03 | 04 | 11 | 04 05 | | 08 | 09 | 11 | 01 08 | | 09 | 11 | 02 03 | | 01 02 | | 02 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 06 | 07 | 07 | 08 | 08 | 09 | 09 | 10 | 10 | | | | | |
| Month | Gear | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | PS | PS | PS | PS | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | BB | PS | BB | PS | PS | BB | BB | PS | BB | BB | PS | BB | BB | PS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 780 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 3 | 55 | 18 | 2 | 4 | | | | | 3 | 7 | 6 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 7 | 1 | 36 | 41 | | 4 | 1 | 33 | 60 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| 800 | | | 1 | | | | 2 | 58 | 13 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 35 | 18 | | 2 | 22 | 44 | 3 | 17 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 820 | 1 | | | | | | 6 | 72 | 18 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | 5 | 2 | | 6 | | 19 | 15 | | 1 | 4 | 26 | 33 | 2 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 840 | 4 | 1 | | | | | 6 | 85 | 32 | | 3 | | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | 9 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 860 | 2 | 1 | | | | | 7 | 71 | 42 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | | 2 | | 1 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 880 | 3 | | | | | | 6 | 77 | 52 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 900 | 8 | | | | | | 3 | 71 | 66 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 920 | 10 | | | | | | 1 | 49 | 74 | 3 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 940 | 1 | | | | | | 19 | 58 | 10 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 960 | | | | | | | 5 | 16 | 30 | 6 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 980 | | | | | | | 2 | 5 | 24 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1000 | | 1 | | | | | 2 | 1 | 20 | 5 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1020 | | | | | | | 1 | 7 | 12 | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1040 | | | | | | | 2 | 8 | 8 | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1060 | | | | | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | 3 | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1080 | 2 | | | | | | | 2 | 2 | 10 | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 4 | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1100 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 12 | | | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 5 | | | | | | 2 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1120 | | 1 | | | | | | | 9 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | 2 | | | 4 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1140 | 1 | | | | | | | | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | | | 1 | | | 5 | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1160 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 12 | | | | 1 | | | | | | 4 | | | 1 | | | 4 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1180 | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 10 | | | 1 | | | | | | | 2 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1200 | | | | | | | | | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 2 | | | 7 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1220 | | | | | | | | 1 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1240 | | | | | | | | 1 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | | | 1 | | | 4 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1260 | | | | | | | | 3 | 19 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 5 | | | 1 | | | 4 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1280 | | | | | | | | | 15 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 5 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1300 | | | | | | | | | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | 2 | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1320 | | | | | | | | 1 | 21 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1340 | | | | | | | | | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1360 | | | | | | | | 2 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1380 | | | | | | | | | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1400 | | | | | | | | | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1420 | | | | | | | | | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1440 | | | | | | | | | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1460 | | | | | | | | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1480 | | | | | | | | | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1500 | | | | | | | | | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1520 | | | | | | | | | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1540 | | | | | | | | | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1560 | | | | | | | | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1580 | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1600 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1620 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1640 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1660 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1680 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| n | 50 | 100 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 750 | 600 | 552 | 200 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 100 | 250 | 450</td | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TABLE 2. (Continued)

DAVIDOFF

TABLE 2. (Continued)

TABLE 2. (Continued)

TABLE 2. (Continued)

| Year | 1961 | | | | | | 1961 | | | | | |
|--------|------|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 09 | | | 10 | | | 11 | | | 12 | | |
| | 02 | 11 | 12 | 04 | 04 | 05 | 09 | 10 | 12 | 01 | 12 | 03 |
| Area | BB | PS | PS | BB | PS | BB | BB | BB | PS | BB | PS | BB |
| Month | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gear | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 400-19 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 420 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 440 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 460 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 480 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 500 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 520 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 540 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 560 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 580 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 600 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 620 | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| 640 | | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 660 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 680 | | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 700 | | 2 | 12 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 720 | | 2 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 740 | | 4 | 9 | | | | | | | | | |
| 760 | | 2 | 14 | | | | | | | | | |
| 780 | | 1 | 11 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 800 | | | 11 | | | | | | | | | |
| 820 | | | 4 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 840 | | 2 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 860 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 880 | | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 900 | | | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 920 | | 1 | 4 | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 940 | | | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 960 | | 1 | | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 980 | | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1000 | | 1 | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 1020 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 1040 | | | 1 | 6 | | | | | | | | |
| 1060 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1080 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 1100 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1120 | | 1 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 1140 | | 1 | 2 | 6 | | | | | | | | |
| 1160 | | 4 | 1 | 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 1180 | | 1 | 2 | 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 1200 | | 4 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 1220 | | 1 | 1 | 8 | | | | | | | | |
| 1240 | | 5 | 1 | 6 | | | | | | | | |
| 1260 | | 4 | 1 | 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 1280 | | 1 | | 5 | | | | | | | | |

TABLE 2. (Continued)

| Year | 1961 | | | | | | 1961 | | | | | |
|-------|------|----|----|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 09 | | | 10 | | | 11 | | | 12 | | |
| | 02 | 11 | 12 | 04 | 04 | 05 | 09 | 10 | 12 | 01 | 12 | 03 |
| Area | BB | PS | PS | BB | PS | BB | BB | BB | PS | BB | PS | BB |
| Month | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gear | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1300 | | | | 1 | | | | | | 2 | | |
| 1320 | | | | | 3 | | | | | 4 | | |
| 1340 | | | | | | 2 | | | | 2 | 1 | |
| 1360 | | | | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| 1380 | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 1400 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 3 | | |
| 1420 | | | | | | | | | | 8 | | |
| 1440 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 1460 | | | | | | | | | | 3 | | |
| 1480 | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 1500 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1520 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 1540 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1560 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| n | | | | 50 | 100 | 100 | | | | 50 | | |
| d | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 |

TABLE 3. Estimated growth rate and mid-year length of yellowfin in Area 02 by type of gear.**TABLA 3.** Tasas de crecimiento y longitudes estimadas de medio año del atún aleta amarilla en el Área 02, por equipo de pesca.

| Gear—Equipo | Year class — Clase anual | | | | | Year class — Clase anual | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|------------|------|
| | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 |
| | Growth rate (cm./month) Tasa de crecimiento (cm./mes) | | | | | Calculated mid-year length (cm.) Longitud calculada de medio año (cm.) | | | | |
| 1 | | | | <u>N+1</u> | | | | | <u>N+1</u> | |
| 1 | | 3.1 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 2.5 | | 77.3 | 87.0 | 82.7 | 70.9 |
| 2 | | 2.9 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 1.7 | | 80.0 | 88.2 | 83.5 | 71.4 |
| Common line—línea común (between gear within year classes) (entre equipo dentro de las clases anuales) | | 3.1 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 2.2 | | 78.2 | 87.7 | 82.9 | 70.8 |
| | | | | <u>N+2</u> | | | | <u>N+2</u> | | |
| 1 | | 3.6 | 2.5 | 1.4 | | | 120.6 | 117.4 | 125.6 | |
| 2 | | 5.0 | 2.9 | 1.4 | | | 124.8 | 122.5 | 126.5 | |
| Common line | | 3.8 | 2.6 | 1.4 | | | 120.6 | 120.3 | 125.9 | |
| | | | | <u>N+3</u> | | | | <u>N+3</u> | | |
| 1 | | | 1.3 | | | | | 140.5 | | |
| 2 | | | 0.8 | | | | | 140.6 | | |
| Common line | | | 1.2 | | | | | 140.6 | | |

1—baitboats—barcos de carnada
2—purse-seiners—barcos rederos

TABLE 4. Monthly modal lengths (cm.) of age groups in Year Classes X51-X61; Areas 01, 08, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 13 and 14.**TABLA 4.** Longitudes modales mensuales (cm.) de los grupos de edades en las clases anuales X51-X61; Areas 01, 08, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 13 y 14.

| Month of catch Mes de captura | Area 01 | | | | | | | | | | Area 08 | | | | | | | | | | Area 02 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 | |
| N | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | 54 | 52 | 50 | 52 | 58 | 50 | 54 | 59 | 58 | 54 | 58 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6 | 54 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 58 | 54 | 58 | 59 | 59 | 58 | 54 | 55 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | 54 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 58 | 54 | 58 | 59 | 59 | 58 | 54 | 55 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | 56 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 58 | 54 | 58 | 59 | 59 | 58 | 54 | 55 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | 58 | 54 | 55 | 62 | 56 | 58 | 56 | 62 | 64 | 61 | 52 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 71 | 65 | 60 | 53 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | 62 | 56 | 62 | 60 | 62 | 72 | 62 | 59 | 56 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | 66 | 64 | 58 | 62 | 72 | 70 | 66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N+1 | 1 | | | | | 70 | 68 | 62 | 72 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | | | | 72 | | 64 | 68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | 65 | 72 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | 64 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | 82 | 79 | 72 | ‡80 | 90 | 66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6 | 80 | 79 | 75 | ‡80 | 90 | 86 | 72 | 84 | 92 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | 86 | 73 | 80 | 93 | 86 | 72 | 84 | 92 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | 88 | 78 | 76 | 84 | 97 | 90 | 76 | 88 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | 90 | 81 | 80 | 86 | 102 | | 86 | 96 | 92 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10 | 90 | 82 | | 108 | | | 85 | 98 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | 86 | | 112 | 102 | 94 | 99 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | | 106 | 113 | 106 | 98 | 112 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N+2 | 1 | | | | 114 | 110 | 102 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | | | | | 114 | 116 | 104 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | 114 | 116 | 104 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | 117 | 116 | 110 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | | | | | | 114 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | | | | | 116 | | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10 | | | | | | 124 | | 127 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | | | | | | 130 | | 134 | 129 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N+3 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

† Hennemuth's designation — Designación de Hennemuth

‡ Single sample — una sola muestra

TABLE 4. (Continued)

| Month of catch Mes de captura | Area 03* | | | | | | | | | | Area 04 | | | | | | | | | | Area 05† | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|-----|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 | | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 |
| N | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 50 | 52 | 56 | | | | | | | 54 |
| | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 58 | 56 | 58 | 54 | 56 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 54 |
| | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 58 | 56 | 58 | 54 | 56 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 54 |
| | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 56 | 58 | 56 | 54 | 56 | 58 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 54 |
| | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 62 | 55 | 62 | 58 | 60 | 62 | 64 | 64 | 60 | 57 |
| | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 64 | 56 | 60 | 58 | 60 | 62 | 64 | 64 | 60 | 56 |
| | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 64 | 60 | 64 | 66 | 70 | 64 | 71 | 70 | 64 | 66 |
| | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 68 | 66 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 64 |
| | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 72 | 62 | 68 | 64 | 70 | 68 | 74 | 77 | | |
| | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 75 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 72 | 78 | 82 | | | |
| | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 78 | 68 | 77 | 78 | 68 | 83 | 82 | 88 | | |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 76 | 72 | 76 | 68 | 84 | 86 | | | | |
| N+1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 68 | 64 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 64 |
| | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 72 | 62 | 68 | 64 | 70 | 68 | 74 | 77 | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 75 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 72 | 78 | 82 | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 78 | 68 | 77 | 78 | 68 | 83 | 82 | 88 | | |
| | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 76 | 72 | 76 | 68 | 84 | 86 | | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 74 | 72 | 82 | 72 | 86 | 81 | 96 | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 74 | 72 | 80 | 84 | 98 | | | | | |
| | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 78 | 76 | 87 | 84 | 90 | 100 | | | | |
| | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 94 | 96 | 106 | 102 | 94 | | | | | |
| | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 92 | 108 | | | 108 | 94 | 114 | | | |
| | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N+2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 114 | 112 | | | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 104 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 110 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 118 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 118 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 118 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 114 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 110 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 110 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 114 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 110 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 110 | | | | | | | | | |

* Area 03 data combined with Area 04 data during years 1951-1954—see text.
Se combinaron los datos de las Areas 03 y 04 para los años 1951-1954 (vease el texto).

† Area 10 data combined with Area 05 data during years 1951-1954—see text.
Se combinaron los datos de las Areas 10 y 05 para los años 1951-1954 (vease el texto).

|| Poor mode present.
Modo mal definido.

TABLE 4. (Continued)

TABLE 5. Estimated growth rate and mid-year length of yellowfin during growth stanzas N, N+1, N+2 and N+3 by Year Class and area.
TABLA 5. Tasas de crecimiento y longitudes estimadas de medio año, del atún aleta amarilla, durante los segmentos de crecimiento N, N+1, N+2 y N+3 por clases anuales y áreas.

| Area | Year Class — Clase Anual | | | | | | | | | | Year Class — Clase Anual | | | | | | | | | | Common line (among year classes within areas) | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 | Línea común (entre clases anuales dentro de las áreas) | X51 | X52 | X53 | X54 | X55 | X56 | X57 | X58 | X59 | X60 | X61 | Línea común (entre clases anuales dentro de las áreas) | |
| Growth rate (cm./month) Tasa de crecimiento (cm./mes) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | | | | | | | | | | | | Calculated mid-year length (cm.) Longitud calculada de medio año (cm.) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 01 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 0.4 | 1.9 | 3.2 | 2.5 | 1.7 | -0.2 | 1.5* | 52.0 | 54.3 | 53.3 | 54.7 | 52.2 | 56.6 | 51.5 | 56.1 | 56.5 | 54.8 | 54.8 | 55.0 | |
| 08 | — | — | — | — | 2.7 | 3.0 | 1.5 | 1.0† | — | — | — | 1.8 | — | — | — | — | — | 53.4 | 45.5 | 56.5 | 56.2 | — | — | 55.0* | |
| 02 | — | — | — | 1.1 | 1.1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1.1 | — | — | — | — | — | 56.0 | 54.0 | — | — | — | — | 54.9* | |
| 03 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2.1 | — | — | — | — | — | 53.8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 04 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2.1 | — | — | — | — | — | 56.0 | 57.1 | — | — | — | — | 57.6 | |
| 05 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 1.1 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 1.2* | 59.2 | 56.6 | 57.6 | 56.4 | 57.9 | 56.0 | 57.1 | — | 59.0 | 57.7 | 56.8 | 57.6 | |
| 06 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 | -0.3 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 1.7 | — | 1.0† | 57.5 | 55.3 | 54.3 | 54.2 | 58.1 | 55.5 | 58.0 | 55.9 | 55.5 | — | — | 56.1 | |
| 07 | — | 0.9 | 1.9 | 0.8 | — | 1.0 | — | 0.4 | 1.7 | — | — | 1.2* | — | 54.2 | 54.7 | 51.8 | 56.5 | — | 55.9 | 57.2 | — | — | — | — | 55.6 |
| 13 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.8 | 1.1 | 2.2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 61.1 | 56.2 | 61.9 | — | — | — | 59.1* | |
| 14 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | |
| N+1 | | | | | | | | | | | | N+1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 01 | 2.4 | 1.7 | 2.2 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.6 | — | 3.6 | — | 3.5 | 83.8 | 80.2 | 74.3 | 78.6 | 91.8 | 85.9 | 74.5 | 85.9 | — | 85.5 | — | 81.7* | |
| 08 | — | — | — | 2.0† | 6.0 | 4.3 | — | — | — | — | — | 4.2 | — | — | 80.0† | 89.0 | 85.2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 85.4 | |
| 02 | — | 2.3 | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 2.2 | 3.0† | — | 4.0 | — | 3.2* | — | 79.0 | 80.8 | 77.8 | 87.8 | 82.5 | 70.4 | 80.2† | — | 90.0 | — | 80.6 | |
| 03 | — | — | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 3.3† | 1.2 | 0.7 | — | 3.5* | — | — | 77.1 | 87.5 | 84.9 | 78.6 | 87.8† | 74.8 | 75.4 | — | — | 83.9 | |
| 04 | — | 2.4† | 2.0† | 2.7† | 2.0† | 3.4 | 2.1† | 0.8† | 2.8 | 3.5 | 0.3 | 2.8* | 79.9† | 81.7† | 74.2† | 74.3† | 85.6 | 78.7† | 68.0† | 82.0 | 74.4 | 76.9 | — | 80.6 | |
| 05 | 2.0 | 3.9 | 1.4 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 3.9 | 2.2 | 3.9 | — | 3.5* | 79.9 | 79.2 | 77.2 | 77.2 | 82.2 | 83.4 | 92.0 | 88.8 | 83.6 | 95.4 | — | 84.6 | |
| 06 | 3.1 | — | 1.0 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.4 | — | — | — | 3.4* | 87.2 | — | 82.5 | 68.4 | 78.8 | 87.0 | 91.6 | 75.2 | — | — | — | 81.4 | |
| 07 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 2.0 | 3.3 | — | — | 5.4 | 3.0 | — | — | 3.1* | 86.2 | 76.2 | 88.2 | 67.0 | 75.6 | — | 97.5 | 79.2 | — | — | — | 80.4 | |
| 13 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4.5 | 1.3 | — | — | 3.9* | — | — | — | — | — | — | 94.7 | 79.8 | — | — | — | 88.7 | |
| 14 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | |
| Common line (among areas within year classes) Línea común (entre áreas dentro de las clases anuales) | | | | | | | | | | | | Common line (among areas within year classes) Línea común (entre áreas dentro de las clases anuales) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.3 | 3.2 | 2.8** | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.1** | 3.3 | 2.6 | 3.3** | — | — | — | 82.7** | 79.2 | 82.5 | 77.1** | 86.1** | 84.1 | 80.0 | 83.8** | 78.6** | 86.6 | — | — | |
| N+2 | | | | | | | | | | | | N+2 | | | | | | | | | | | | 119.4* | |
| 01 | — | — | 4.6 | — | 2.6 | 2.4 | — | — | — | — | 2.5 | — | — | 108.8 | — | 123.8 | 118.2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 122.1 | |
| 08 | — | — | — | 4.0 | 3.7 | 2.3 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 6.6 | — | — | 2.2* | — | 122.0 | 120.9 | 120.3 | 125.4 | 127.8 | 124.7 | — | — | — | — | 129.3 | |
| 02 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4.0 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 120.8 | — | — | 118.5 | | |
| 03 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1.6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 120.8 | | |
| 04 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3.0 | — | 3.0 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 118.5 | | |
| Common line (among areas within year classes) | | | | | | | | | | | | Common line (among areas within year classes) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.0 | 3.7 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 2.3 | 2.6* | 1.6 | 3.0 | — | — | — | — | — | 120.0 | 120.9 | 119.2 | 125.4 | 125.5 | 117.8 | 120.8 | 118.5 | — | — | — | — | |
| N+3 | | | | | | | | | | | | N+3 | | | | | | | | | | | | 140.8 | |
| 02 | — | — | 1.1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1.1 | — | — | 140.8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 140.8 | |

* Significant differences among year classes within areas.

** Diferencias significativas entre las clases anuales dentro de las áreas.

** Significant differences among areas within year classes.

** Diferencias significativas entre las áreas dentro de las clases anuales.

† Observations only for first six months of year.

‡ Observaciones solamente para los primeros seis meses del año.

— Less than 3 observations.

— Menos de 3 observaciones.

TABLE 6. Average monthly modal lengths (cm.) of age groups in year classes X51-X61; Northern Areas 01-04, and 08.**TABLA 6.** Promedios de las longitudes modales mensuales (cm.) de los grupos de edades en las clases anuales X51-X61; Area Norteñas 01-04 y 08.

| Month of capture Mes de captura | t | Ave monthly modal | | | | | | | | | | | | $\bar{X}_{...}$ |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|-----------------|
| | | \bar{X}_{51} | \bar{X}_{52} | \bar{X}_{53} | \bar{X}_{54} | \bar{X}_{55} | \bar{X}_{56} | \bar{X}_{57} | \bar{X}_{58} | \bar{X}_{59} | \bar{X}_{60} | \bar{X}_{61} | | |
| N+1 | 1 | 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | 71 |
| | 2 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | 74 |
| | 3 | 20* | 73 | 71 | 69 | 69 | 74 | 70 | 66 | 72 | 71 | 74 | 71 | 70 |
| | 4 | 21 | 77 | 73 | 72 | 72 | 79 | 75 | 70 | 72 | 72 | 76 | 74 | 70 |
| | 5 | 22 | 78 | 77 | 72 | 71 | 85 | 79 | 73 | 79 | 72 | 79 | 76 | 70 |
| | 6 | 23 | 80 | 78 | 77 | 80 | 88 | 82 | 76 | 82 | 76 | 84 | 80 | 78 |
| | 7 | 24 | 84 | 83 | 78 | 80 | 90 | 87 | 77 | 85 | 78 | 92 | 83 | 80 |
| | 8 (2) | 25 | 88 | 80 | 81 | 82 | 94 | 91 | 79 | 88 | 83 | 92 | 86 | 80 |
| | 9 | 26 | 90 | 83 | 86 | 87 | 98 | 94 | 83 | 94 | 86 | 92 | 89 | 83 |
| | 10 | 27 | | 89 | 89 | 92 | 102 | 100 | 84 | 97 | 89 | | 93 | |
| | 11 | 28 | | 90 | 92 | 94 | 105 | 103 | 89 | 99 | 91 | | 95 | |
| | 12 | 29 | | 94 | 101 | 102 | 107 | 106 | 94 | 107 | 97 | | 101 | |
| N+2 | 1 | 30 | | 98 | 102 | 107 | 111 | 110 | 99 | 110 | 102 | | 105 | |
| | 2 | 31 | | 104 | 104 | 108 | 112 | 113 | 102 | 115 | 104 | | 108 | |
| | 3 | 32 | | 110 | 106 | 107 | 113 | 118 | 110 | 111 | 108 | | 110 | |
| | 4 | 33 | | 114 | 114 | 115 | 114 | 123 | 111 | 113 | 100 | | 113 | |
| | 5 | 34 | | 116 | 117 | 117 | 126 | 124 | 116 | 118 | 114 | | 119 | |
| | 6 | 35 | | 118 | 120 | 116 | 121 | 125 | 121 | | | | 120 | |
| | 7 | 36 | | 123 | 118 | 123 | 126 | 119 | | | | | 122 | |
| | 8 (2) | 37 | | 126 | 121 | 124 | 131 | 122 | | | | | 125 | |
| | 9 | 38 | | | 124 | 128 | 133 | 124 | | | | | 127 | |
| | 10 | 39 | | | 126 | 133 | 134 | 127 | | | | | 130 | |
| | 11 | 40 | | | 130 | 133 | 135 | 129 | | | | | 132 | |
| | 12 | 41 | | | 130 | 134 | 138 | 130 | | | | | 133 | |
| N+3 | 1 | 42 | | | 136 | 135 | 140 | 133 | | | | | 136 | |
| | 2 | 43 | | | 134 | 136 | 141 | 135 | | | | | 136 | |
| | 3 | 44 | | | 136 | | 142 | 138 | | | | | 139 | |
| | 4 | 45 | | | 138 | | 144 | | | | | | 141 | |
| | 5 | 46 | | | 140 | | | | | | | | 140 | |
| | 6 | 47 | | | 141 | | | | | | | | 141 | |
| | 7 | 48 | | | 141 | | | | | | | | 141 | |
| | 8 (1) | 49 | | | 142 | | | | | | | | 142 | |
| | 9 | 50 | | | 145 | | | | | | | | 145 | |
| | 10 | 51 | | | 148 | | | | | | | | 148 | |
| | 11 | -52- | | | 144 | | | | | | | | 144 | |
| | 12 | -53- | | | 146 | | | | | | | | 146 | |

* Modes of fish younger than 20 months were excluded because they appeared to be biased by fishing selectivity (See Figure 6).

* Los modos de los peces menores de 20 meses de edad fueron excluidos porque parecen ser influenciados por la selectividad de pesca (Véase Figura 6).

**COMPOSICION DEL TAMAÑO Y DE LAS CLASES ANUALES DE LA
PESCA, EDAD Y CRECIMIENTO DEL ATUN ALETA AMARILLA
EN EL OCEANO PACIFICO ORIENTAL TROPICAL, 1951-1961**

por

Edwin B. Davidoff

RESUMEN

El análisis de los datos de la composición de tamaños del atún aleta amarilla correspondiente a los que provienen de los barcos rederos y de carnada, e incluyendo datos recolectados previamente al programa de muestreo de la Comisión, ha permitido un examen más cuidadoso de las variaciones en las tasas de crecimiento de las clases anuales del atún aleta amarilla.

Se compararon los modos de los datos de la composición de tamaños recolectados de los barcos rederos, con los obtenidos de las muestras de los barcos de carnada. El análisis de covariancia indicó, que las líneas de regresión computadas para las clases anuales idénticas de ambas fuentes de datos, eran similares en la pendiente y elevación, y que las dos series de datos podían ser combinados. Por lo tanto, las muestras de la composición de tamaños obtenidas por ambos métodos de pesca han sido usadas para suplementar las unas a las otras durante este análisis.

Los estudios estadísticos de la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla durante el periodo de 11 años, del 1951 a 1961, indicó (1) diferencias significativas en la tasa de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales en la misma área; (2) el crecimiento de una clase anual individual durante un año específico es generalmente similar en todas las áreas de pesca; (3) los atunes aleta amarilla de la misma clase anual, y de la misma edad en diferentes áreas, difieren significativamente en su longitud total. Esta conclusiones son similares a las de Hennemuth (1961) quien analizó una serie más corta de datos recolectados de los barcos de carnada. Sin embargo, estas conclusiones difieren en cuanto a la tasa de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área.

El examen de las temperaturas de la superficie del agua y de las tasas de crecimiento de las clases anuales individuales del atún aleta amarilla en la misma área, indicó una relación no significativa. Por lo tanto, las diferencias significativas en la tasa de crecimiento de las clases anuales individuales dentro de la misma área no están correlacionadas con los

cambios en la temperatura de la superficie del agua pero son probablemente el resultado de otros factores ambientales.

La comparación de la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla de cada sexo, indica que los machos y las hembras tienen esencialmente la misma tasa de crecimiento, por lo menos hasta los 130 cm. Los datos para el atún aleta amarilla superiores a este tamaño, eran demasiado limitados para hacer la comparación del crecimiento entre los sexos.

La ecuación de Von Bertalanffy, que se usa para describir el tamaño a cierta edad, se computó empleando todos los datos disponibles del atún aleta amarilla de las cinco áreas del norte. La ecuación resultante es

$$L = 167 [1 - e^{-0.05(t-10)}]$$

Los tres parámetros K (0.05) L_∞ (167 cm.) y t_o (10 meses) son esencialmente idénticos a los determinados por Hennemuth (1961), quien, para el Área 02, calculó valores de 0.05, 169 y 10 respectivamente. Su estimación se basó en los datos de los barcos de carnada para las clases anuales X54-X56, mientras que la nueva estimación se basa en los datos combinados de los barcos de carnada y de los rederos para las clases anuales de X51-X61.

El atún aleta amarilla empieza a entrar en la pesquería cuando tiene aproximadamente un año de edad. En California, el tamaño mínimo legal de 55 cm. (7.5 libras) controla el tamaño al cual este grupo de edad entra por primera vez en la captura. La selectividad de pesca causa la sobreestimación del tamaño modal de este grupo de edad durante los pocos primeros meses que está presente en la pesquería. A la edad de dos años, el atún aleta amarilla tiene un promedio de 84 cm. (26 libras), a los tres años 121 cm. (80 libras), y a los cuatro años 142 cm. (129 libras). El atún aleta amarilla mayor de los cuatro años no es capturado por la pesquería en cantidades apreciables.

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Estos datos y los recolectados desde 1959-1961 fueron procesados por medio del computador digital I.B.M. 7090 en el Centro Occidental de Procesamiento de Datos de la Universidad de California, Los Angeles. La utilización del programa computador BIMD 20 (Análisis de Covariancia,

No. 2) preparado por la División de Bioestadística, Departamento de la Medicina Preventiva y Salud Pública, Escuela de Medicina, Universidad de California, Los Angeles, permitió los análisis estadísticos rápidos de estos datos.

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INTRODUCCION

Los estudios investigativos para la estimación de las estadísticas vitales (edad, tasa de crecimiento, tasas de mortalidad y variaciones en la fuerza de las clases anuales) de los atunes, son esenciales para el entendimiento de la biología y de la dinámica de las poblaciones de los atunes. Los conocimientos logrados de estas investigaciones proveen una parte de la información básica requerida por la Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical para cumplir con sus obligaciones bajo la Convención. Se requiere que la Comisión determine la pesca máxima de equilibrio y que recomiende las reglamentaciones de conservación, cuando sean requeridas, para mantener los stocks del atún a niveles que permitan un rendimiento máximo sostenible año tras año.

La tasa de crecimiento es una de las estadísticas vitales de importancia, que determina la dinámica de una población. Este aspecto importante debe ser investigado observando los cambios temporales en la composición del tamaño de las poblaciones al ser reflejados por la captura. Para este, y para otros fines, la Comisión comenzó en 1954 a recolectar los datos sobre la composición mensual del tamaño de la captura por subáreas geográficas.

La metodología para determinar la composición del tamaño y la clase anual de la captura, la edad y la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla

en el Océano Pacífico Oriental Tropical para los años 1954-1958 ha sido publicada por Hennemuth (1961). Los datos de la composición de tamaños han sido extendidos para incluir los datos de 1951-1954, de los cuales no se disponía previamente, y los datos para 1959-1961, recolectados subsiguentemente a la publicación de Hennemuth.

Se desea analizar los datos de las series de períodos largos, que incluyen los datos de los barcos rederos además de los de carnada, para recomputar las tasas de crecimiento y examinar más minuciosamente la variación de las tasas de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla. El presente trabajo informa sobre los resultados de tales estudios incorporando los datos que cubren el período de 11 años, de 1951 a 1961.

METODOS DE RECOLECCION Y PROCESAMIENTO DE LOS DATOS

Las muestras de la composición de tamaños de los desembarques comerciales del atún aleta amarilla durante los años 1951-1961, han sido recolectadas y tabuladas por equipo, año, área y mes de captura, por el personal del Laboratorio de Pesquerías del Estado de California. Los datos subsiguientes fueron recolectados por el personal de la Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical. Los métodos de recolección fueron descritos detalladamente por Hennemuth (1957).

En general, las áreas del Laboratorio de Pesquerías del Estado de California corresponden bastante bien con las del programa de medición del mercado de la Comisión. Fueron necesarias ciertas reagrupaciones de las áreas empleadas por el Laboratorio de Pesquerías del Estado de California para hacerlas corresponder tanto como fuera posible con las de la Comisión. Estas agrupaciones se muestran en la Tabla 1 y los límites geográficos de las 14 áreas de medición del mercado de la Comisión aparecen en la Figura 1. Como no fue posible separar las muestras de la composición del tamaño del Laboratorio de Pesquería del Estado de California de las aguas mexicanas y de la América Central en las Areas 03 y 04, y 05 y 10 de la Comisión, respectivamente (Tabla 1), los datos de los peces de aguas mexicanas del Laboratorio de Pesquería del Estado de California se asignaron al Area 04 de la CIAT, y los de la América Central se asignaron al Area 05.

Las medidas de longitud recolectadas por el Laboratorio de Pesquerías del Estado de California se agruparon originalmente en intervalos de a 10 mm. Estas fueron reagrupadas en intervalos de a 20 mm. para que correspondieran con el método de tabulación de la Comisión.

Después de estas modificaciones, los datos de 1951-1954 del Laboratorio de Pesquería del estado de California se transfirieron a las tarjetas

I.B.M., de las que se calcularon por medio de un computador, el porcentaje mensual, el porcentaje suavizado y el porcentaje acumulativo de las distribuciones de la frecuencia de longitudes del atún aleta amarilla de la captura comercial. Los datos de la composición del tamaño recolectados por la Comisión se procesaron similarmente, excepto que se combinaron todas las muestras del mismo equipo, año, mes y áreas antes de su procesamiento.

Los datos del atún aleta amarilla medido durante los años 1951-1954 se encuentran en los registros del Laboratorio de Pesquerías del Estado de California, mientras que los muestreados por el personal de la Comisión durante 1954-1958 aparecen en la publicación de Hennemuth (1961). Las distribuciones mensuales de la frecuencia de longitudes del atún aleta amarilla medidas durante los años 1959-1961 se muestran en la Tabla 2 por área y equipo. También aparece el número de peces medidos y el número de las muestras individuales comprendidas en cada distribución mensual de la frecuencia de longitudes. Fue evidente una concordancia excelente entre las localidades y fechas de recolección de los datos sobre la composición del tamaño y las cartas que ilustran la distribución geográfica de las capturas del atún aleta amarilla por trimestres del año (Alverson, 1960).

METODOS DE ANALISIS

Procesamiento de los datos de los barcos de carnada y rederos

Durante los años de 1951-1958 los barcos de carnada desembarcaron la mayor parte de la captura del atún aleta amarilla del Pacífico Oriental Tropical, mientras la parte tomada por los barcos rederos era menor. Sin embargo, en 1959, con la conversión de muchos de los barcos de carnada a rederos, la captura de estos últimos aumentó hasta la mitad de la captura total anual del atún aleta amarilla. Desde 1960, la flota de los barcos rederos ha desembarcado la mayor parte de la captura total anual (Broadhead, 1962) y la mayoría de las muestras de la frecuencia de longitudes han sido recolectadas de los barcos rederos.

Se compararon los datos de la composición del tamaño recolectados de los barcos rederos con los de los barcos de carnada para determinar si ambos tipos de datos podrían ser combinados para proveer mejores estimativos de la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla.

Identificación de las clases anuales, edad y crecimiento

La metodología para identificar y delinear los modos de las clases anuales a través de su existencia en la pesquería comercial ha sido descrita detalladamente por Hennemuth (1961). Su estudio demostró que las

distribuciones mensuales de la frecuencia de longitudes de la captura se componen de uno o más grupos distintivos de tamaños de peces que, en la mayoría de los casos, representan grupos de edad. Además, los grupos de edad de una determinada clase anual pudieron seguirse a través de los meses y años sucesivos en los cuales hicieron una contribución significativa a la pesquería, esto es por un período de cerca de tres años.

En la mayoría de los casos, las distribuciones mensuales de la frecuencia de longitudes se componen de grupos de tamaños sucesivos y definidos. Una serie primaria y secundaria puede entrar en la captura de cada año aproximadamente seis meses fuera de fase con la otra; estas se denotan anteponiendo el prefijo X o Y, respectivamente, a su actual o supuesto año de entrada, siguiendo el procedimiento de Hennemuth (1961). La serie primaria (X) es el primer grupo que entra en la captura y comprende el grupo más abundante en todas las áreas excepto en el Área 05, donde las series X y Y se presentan aproximadamente iguales en abundancia. En todas las otras áreas la serie Y ocurre esporádicamente y puede ser identificada solamente por un breve período de tiempo. Hennemuth ha demostrado que las series X poseen los atributos requeridos de las clases anuales y pueden considerarse como tales; por lo tanto, solamente los datos de los grupos X han sido utilizados en los estudios estadísticos de la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla.

Para facilitar la comparación estadística de las dos series de datos, cada una de las curvas de las clases anuales primarias (X) fue segmentada en años calendarios, y las longitudes modales mensuales de cada clase anual dentro de cada año se ajustaron por regresión lineal. Se asumió que la pendiente y la longitud calculada de medio año representan la tasa de crecimiento y la longitud promedia, respectivamente. El año calendario de reclutamiento se designó como segmento N ; el segundo año calendario (el primer año calendario completo en la pesquería) se designó como segmento $N+1$, etc., siguiendo el procedimiento de Hennemuth.

Las distribuciones de la frecuencia de longitudes comprenden atunes que varían entre 50 y 170 cm. de longitud de horquilla (de 6 a 224 libras); sin embargo, la mayoría de los peces eran de menos de un metro de longitud. El límite inferior se controla en California por un peso mínimo legal de 7.5 libras, que corresponde a una longitud total calculada de 55 cm.

Se dió énfasis a la tendencia central de los grupos de tamaño suavizando el porcentaje de la frecuencia de longitudes con un promedio móvil de tres intervalos, dando doble peso al intervalo central. En este estudio se usó el criterio de Hennemuth para seleccionar los máximos de las frecuencias suavizadas, con una restricción adicional: no se conectaron los modos que se presumieron pertenecían a la misma clase anual pero con un lapso de seis meses en su aparición en las frecuencias mensuales de lon-

gitudes. Las tasas de crecimiento se calcularon únicamente para aquellos modos que aparecieron antes del lapso en los datos (Tabla 4), excepto en algunos casos en que habían sido identificados previamente y conectados por Hennemuth (*ibid.*).

Se hizo un análisis por separado de los datos de cada área de muestreo. Se dibujaron las curvas de la frecuencia de longitudes suavizadas que representan la composición del tamaño de las capturas mensuales en cada área por tipo de equipo, donde se disponía de suficientes datos y se examinaron detalladamente.

RESULTADOS

Comparación de las tasas de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla calculadas de las muestras de los barcos rederos y de carnada

Se compararon los modos de los datos de la composición de tamaños recolectados de los barcos rederos con aquellos obtenidos de las muestras de los barcos de carnada para determinar si ambas fuentes de datos podían combinarse para proveer mejores estimativos de la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla. Estos datos se compararon primero gráficamente (Figura 2) para el Área 02, un área que suministró la mayor parte de las observaciones. El examen de esta figura sugiere que la longitud modal y el tiempo de ocurrencia de los grupos de tamaños determinados de ambas fuentes de datos, son similares. Se hizo un análisis adicional computando las líneas de regresión para las clases anuales primarias (X) idénticas en el Área 02 obtenidas de ambas fuentes de datos, y comparándolas por el análisis de covariancia. Estos análisis indicaron que las líneas de regresión computadas para clases anuales idénticas de ambas fuentes de datos eran similares en pendiente y elevación y que las dos series de datos podrían ser combinados (Tabla 3). Por lo tanto, las muestras de la composición de tamaños obtenidas de ambos tipos de equipo de pesca han sido usadas para suplementar las unas a las otras y para proveer estimaciones mejores de la tasa de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla. En aquellas áreas y meses de los cuales se disponía de muestras de la composición de tamaños de ambos tipos de equipo de pesca, los modos de clases anuales idénticas se promediaron, empleándose el valor promedio en el análisis de las tasas de crecimiento.

Tasa de crecimiento

Las Figuras 3 y 4 comparan las curvas de crecimiento de las clases anuales X51-X61 en todas las áreas, que se basan en todos los datos disponibles. Una buena concordancia fue evidente entre los datos de 1951-1954 y 1959-1961 y los datos de los años 1954-1958 analizados por Hennemuth (1961), con respecto a que los modos de las clases anuales iden-

tificadas por Hennemuth corresponden con los modos de la misma clase anual a edades menores y mayores respectivamente. Estas figuras también indican que las longitudes modales mensuales de los grupos de edad de la misma clase anual son similares en todas las áreas, con la excepción de la clase anual X57 en que, en los mismos meses de captura son, en promedio, de un tamaño menor en las Areas del norte (01-04 y 08) que en las áreas del sur. Una inspección de las Figuras 3 y 4 sugiere que la variación en la tasa de crecimiento es mayor entre las diferentes clases anuales primarias o X en la misma área que entre las mismas clases anuales en diferentes áreas. Estos datos se discuten después más detalladamente por segmentos individuales de crecimiento.

En la Tabla 4 aparece una lista de las longitudes modales mensuales de las clases anuales primarias por área y mes de captura. Estos datos fueron segmentados en años calendarios y las longitudes modales mensuales de cada clase anual dentro de cada año calendario se ajustaron por líneas de regresión. Se supuso que la pendiente y la longitud calculada de medio año representan la tasa de crecimiento y la longitud promedio respectivamente.

Se efectuaron dos análisis de covariancia de clasificación sencilla para comparar (1) las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área durante el mismo segmento de crecimiento y (2) la misma clase anual en diferentes áreas para determinar si el crecimiento era similar dentro de las áreas y/o las clases anuales. La comparación de las tasas de crecimiento de la misma clase anual en diferentes áreas fue limitada a los segmentos $N+1$ y $N+2$, ya que las medidas del crecimiento aparente durante el segmento N son mínimas debido al efecto de la selectividad de pesca; *v. gr*, los pescadores en ciertas épocas del año capturan atunes aleta amarilla de pesos legales y sublegales y desechan los menores del peso legal de 7.5 libras (aproximadamente de 55 cm. de longitud total). Los datos de la composición del tamaño reflejan este fenómeno en que los modos de las clases anuales entrantes permanecen estacionarios hacia 55 o 56 cm. durante varios meses, o en que incrementan solo ligeramente de un mes a otro (Tabla 4).

Tasa de crecimiento del grupo del segmento N

El análisis de covariancia de las tasas de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área durante el segmento N se resume en la Tabla 5.

Estos análisis indican diferencias significativas de la tasa de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales en las Areas 01, 05, 06 y 07. Las diferencias significativas de la longitud media ajustada son evidentes en las Areas 02, 03 y 13. El promedio estimado de la tasa de crecimiento para cada área se obtuvo de la línea común de regresión. Estos valores

oscilan entre 1.0 cm. y 2.1 cm. por mes y son mínimos debido a la selectividad de pesca.

Tasa de crecimiento del grupo del segmento $N+1$

Los análisis similares, durante el segmento $N+1$, también se resumen en la Tabla 5. De las diez comparaciones entre las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área, todas menos dos áreas, 01 y 08, exhibieron diferencias significativas en la tasa de crecimiento entre las clases anuales. De las dos áreas que no reflejaron diferencias en las tasas de crecimiento una diferencia significativa en la longitud media ajustada, fue evidente en una (Area 01).

Al comparar la tasa de crecimiento de la misma clase anual en diferentes áreas, siete de las diez comparaciones indicaron similitud en el crecimiento en todas las áreas de la pesquería, con excepción de las clases anuales X53, X57 y X60. Por lo tanto hay mayor semejanza en el crecimiento entre la misma clase anual en diferentes áreas que la que existe en las diferentes clases anuales en la misma área. Estas diferencias pueden ser artificiales, esto es, el resultado de escoger y comparar segmentos cortos de la curva de crecimiento o el efecto de la selectividad de pesca, o pueden ser reales: el resultado de factores ambientales o genéticos. La opinión actual del autor es que el crecimiento es esencialmente similar en todas las áreas de la pesquería y que las diferencias de crecimiento entre las áreas son artificiales.

Las diferencias significativas en las longitudes calculadas de medio año de la misma clase anual en diferentes áreas son evidentes para las clases anuales X51, X54, X55, X58 y X59. Solamente dos clases anuales, X52 y X56, no indicaron diferencias significativas en la longitud promedia ajustada indicando así, que las líneas de regresión de las clases anuales X52 y X56 son similares en todas las áreas.

Tasa de crecimiento del grupo del segmento $N+2$

Los análisis del segmento $N+2$ fueron limitados debido a la pequeña cantidad de datos disponibles. Se compararon las tasas de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área para las Areas 01 y 02. El análisis de covariancia de los datos del Area 01 no indicó diferencias significativas en la tasa de crecimiento pero sí diferencias significativas en la longitud promedia ajustada (Tabla 5). Un análisis similar de los datos del Area 02 reflejó diferencias significativas en la tasa de crecimiento.

La comparación de las tasas de crecimiento de la misma clase anual en diferentes áreas pudo hacerse solamente para las clases anuales X54,

X56 y X57. El análisis de covariancia indicó que las líneas de regresión de las clases anuales X54 y X56 eran similares en todas las áreas mientras que las tasas de crecimiento de la clase anual X57 eran significativamente diferentes.

Tasa de crecimiento del grupo del segmento $N+3$

El análisis de crecimiento del segmento $N+3$ se limitó a la clase anual X54 en el Área 02. Esta clase anual reflejó una tasa de crecimiento de 1.1 cm. por mes y una longitud calculada de medio año de 140.8 cm. (Tabla 5).

Relación entre la tasa de crecimiento y la temperatura de la superficie del agua

Para examinar la relación entre la tasa de crecimiento y la temperatura de la superficie del agua, se graficaron las tasas de crecimiento calculadas para las clases anuales individuales contra las temperaturas medias anuales de la superficie del agua. Se compararon las tasas de crecimiento durante el segmento $N+1$ para las Áreas 04 y 05, que tenían el mayor número de datos con las temperaturas en Manzanillo y Costa Rica respectivamente. Las temperaturas de la superficie del agua se obtuvieron promediando las temperaturas mensuales en las Áreas 10 y 26 de la publicación de Broadhead y Barrett (1963). No fue evidente una relación entre la temperatura de la superficie del agua y la tasa de crecimiento en ninguna de las dos áreas, indicando que las diferencias significativas en las tasas de crecimiento de las clases anuales individuales no están correlacionadas con diferencias en la temperatura media anual. Las diferencias en las tasas de crecimiento pueden ser el resultado de otros factores ambientales, *v. gr.*, el abastecimiento de comida.

Comparación de la tasa de crecimiento de cada sexo

Se ha observado, tanto en el Pacífico Oriental como en otras partes, que los peces más grandes y más viejos tienden a ser predominantemente machos. Esto puede ser debido a una tasa más rápida de crecimiento de los machos, o a una tasa más alta de mortalidad de las hembras. Para investigar esto, y para proveer datos para estudios similares del barrilete, la Comisión comenzó en 1959 a recolectar información adicional sobre el tamaño y la composición de los sexos del atún aleta amarilla y del barrilete que comprenden la captura comercial, siendo el propósito principal el de determinar la tasa de crecimiento de cada sexo.

Nuestra serie de tiempo más adecuada de datos son del atún aleta amarilla capturado en el Área 05. Estas muestras se obtuvieron de los peces capturados tanto por los barcos de carnada como por los rederos.

La comparación de las proporciones de los sexos del atún aleta amarilla capturado por los dos tipos de equipo durante el segundo trimestre de 1960 indica que los barcos rederos capturaron un porcentaje de machos ligeramente más alto que los barcos de carnada. El mayor porcentaje de machos fue particularmente notable en los grupos de edad más viejos. En general, los barcos rederos capturaron un porcentaje mayor de los grupos de edad más viejos de ambos sexos; por el contrario, los barcos de carnada capturaron un porcentaje mayor de los grupos de edad más jóvenes de ambos sexos. Sin embargo, para fines de comparar el crecimiento entre los sexos, las diferencias entre los datos de los barcos de carnada y los rederos no son de importancia. Por lo tanto, los datos de la composición del tamaño de ambos tipos de equipo se combinaron para proveer muestras más grandes para comparar el crecimiento por sexos en cada clase anual. Las progresiones modales para ambos sexos de varias clases anuales han sido graficadas en la Figura 5. De esta figura, es obvio que los machos y las hembras de atún aleta amarilla tienen esencialmente la misma tasa de crecimiento, por lo menos hasta cerca de los 130 cm. Los datos para el atún aleta amarilla mayores de este tamaño (líneas a guiones) son demasiado escasas para una comparación del crecimiento entre los sexos.

Resumen de los estudios estadísticos

En general, la tasa de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área es significativamente diferente, mientras que el crecimiento de una clase anual individual durante un año determinado es similar en todas las áreas de pesca. Sin embargo, los atunes aleta amarilla de la misma clase anual y edad en diferentes áreas difieren significativamente en la longitud total. Estas conclusiones son similares a las de Hennemuth (1961) quien analizó una serie de datos más corta. Sin embargo, estas conclusiones difieren con respecto a la tasa de crecimiento de las diferentes clases anuales dentro de la misma área.

Las temperaturas de la superficie del agua en las Areas 04 y 05 se examinaron para determinar si las diferencias significativas en las tasas de crecimiento de las clases anuales del atún aleta amarilla dentro de esas áreas se relacionaban con los cambios en la temperatura de la superficie del agua. No fue evidente ninguna relación significativa.

La comparación de las tasas de crecimiento del atún aleta amarilla de cada sexo indicó que la tasa de crecimiento es esencialmente la misma en los machos y en las hembras, por lo menos hasta cerca de los 130 cm. Los datos del atún aleta amarilla de un tamaño superior son demasiado escasos para comparar el crecimiento entre ambos sexos.

La curva de crecimiento de Von Bertalanffy

Los análisis estadísticos previos son útiles para comparar el crecimiento de las clases anuales individuales dentro de los años calendarios.

Sin embargo, es deseable presentar una relación representativa continua de la longitud o el peso con la edad del atún aleta amarilla en el Pacífico Oriental Tropical, en una forma que pueda ser incorporada fácilmente en los modelos del rendimiento por recluta. Una ecuación de crecimiento que cumple satisfactoriamente con estos requisitos ha sido formulada por Von Bertalanffy.

Beverton y Holt (1957) describieron la derivación de la curva. Esta ecuación da una representación satisfactoria del crecimiento del pez; se basa en los conceptos fisiológicos (metabolismo del organismo) y por lo tanto se puede usar para investigar problemas tales como el de la variación del crecimiento con el abastecimiento de comida.

La ecuación para la curva de Von Bertalanffy es

$$l_t = L_{\infty} [1 - e^{-K(t-t_0)}]$$

de donde l_t es la longitud a la edad t , la cual se determina por los dos parámetros K (tasa de crecimiento) y L_{∞} (longitud asintótica). El parámetro t_0 (edad aparente a longitud cero) determina la posición de la curva con respecto a los puntos observados.

La ecuación de Von Bertalanffy se computó empleando todos los datos disponibles del atún aleta amarilla de las Areas 01-04 y 08, que comprendían el mayor número de datos a través de todos los límites de los tamaños del atún. Se combinaron las longitudes modales mensuales correspondientes a la misma clase anual en las diferentes áreas, por medio de promedios. Luego los valores resultantes de las clases anuales se promediaron en todas las clases anuales para obtener los valores globales mensuales medios (Tabla 6). Esta tabla contiene los datos básicos de los cuales se computó la curva de Von Bertalanffy. Se empleó el estimativo de Hennemuth (1961), de 20 meses, como la edad inicial de los grupos de edad totalmente reclutados en el Area 02 para determinar la edad del atún aleta amarilla. El procedimiento de Beverton y Holt (1957) fue esencialmente seguido, con la excepción de que se empleó el método de Bartlett (1949) para ajustar una línea en donde ambas variables están sujetas a error, y se empleó para calcular los parámetros K (tasa de crecimiento), L_{∞} (longitud asintótica) y t_0 (edad aparente a la longitud cero).

La ecuación computada para el atún aleta amarilla en las áreas del norte es

$$L = 167 [1 - e^{-0.05(t-10)}]$$

y la curva se muestra gráficamente en la Figura 6.

El atún aleta amarilla entra en la pesquería cuando tiene aproximadamente un año de edad. El tamaño al cual los grupos de edad se incorporan por primera vez en la captura, es controlado en California por el límite mínimo legal de 55 cm. (7.5 libras). La selectividad de pesca es causa de que el tamaño modal de los grupos de edad sea sobreestimado durante los pocos primeros meses en que están presentes en la pesquería.

Los tres parámetros K (0.05), L_∞ (167 cm.) y t_o (10 meses) son esencialmente idénticos a los determinados por Hennemuth (1961) quien, para el Área 02, calculó valores de 0.05, 169 y 10, respectivamente. Su estimación se basó en los datos de los barcos de carnada para las clases anuales X54-X56, mientras que la nueva estimación se basa en los datos combinados de los barcos de carnada y los rederos de las clases anuales X51-X61. Se calcularon los pesos para las longitudes a varias edades usando la ecuación de la relación entre la longitud y el peso de Chatwin (1959) $W = 3.894 \times 10^{-8}L^{3.020}$. A los dos años de edad los atunes aleta amarilla tienen una longitud promedio de 84 cm (26 libras), a los tres años 121 cm. (80 libras) y a los cuatro años 142 cm. (129 libras). El atún aleta amarilla mayor de cuatro años no es capturado por la pesquería en cantidades apreciables.

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