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A ECHO SURVEY NEAR THE OJIN SEAMOUNT

Keishi SHIBATA

Introduction

The author obtained a new depth at the Ojin seamount on board the tuna fishing boat, Hatsushio-Maru #3, for the echo-survey on the fishing ground. Hatsushio-Maru #3 sailed from Shimizu on 8th August 1965, to the Northwestern Pacific Ocean for her long-line fishing. Through out this voyage, continuous echo-sounding was carried out by the fish-finder, NTLB 3000 (28kc and 200kc).

Observation

On 22nd August 1965, the echo-sounder recorded a new depth of 1621m at 38°17’N 170°-08’E (by LORAN) on the top of Guyöt which was situated on the Ojin seamount (38—170) at the southern end of the Emperor seamounts named by Dr. Dietz. Correction of the sound velocity in sea water was made by Kuwahara’s table (1638—13—6=1619 and draft correction +2m, total depth 1621m). The minimum depth of Ojin seamount is printed as 1848m on the depth curve chart of the adjacent seas of Japan, JHO chart no. 6901.

The East-North-East cross section was shown in Fig. 1, and echo-sounder records were shown in Fig. 2.

This Guyöt has a flat top and there is a little roughness on its surface. After this survey, he assumed partially the bottom character to be rocky one from the irregularity of bottom on its recording paper and the condition of echogram on its C. R. T.

The flat top at the depth of 1680m to 1621m was about 1000m width, the shelf from the depth of 1800m to 1680m was 2.8° and average slope from the depth of 3000m to 1800m was 19°.

A long-line fishing was held on the western side, covering twenty sea miles from this bank and many of Velella lata (CHANNISSO et al) were found on the sea surface near the bank.

The detail of fishing were as follows:

- Number of line : 250 baskets, number of hook: 1500 hooks, bait: mackerel pike and squid, surface water temperature : 19.8°C, wind : northerly, very slight.

These hauls were as follows.
Fig. 1. East-North-East cross section along sounding track.

Fig. 2. Echo-sounding profiles near the Ojin seamount from 22h 30m 21st to 00h 50m 22nd August, 1965, fine clear up weather and very slight sea.
Katsuwonus vagans: 2, Prionace glauce: 34, Plagyo dus ferox: 3, Coryphaena hippurus: 1.

The stomach of K. vagans was filled with euphausiids, and P. glauce, Engraulis spp. (total length about 12cm).

References