

Sometimes Fish Can Fool You

Did you know that all gray sea trout are not alike?

The gray sea trout off New Jersey may have more little bones in his backbone than does the gray sea trout found off North Carolina. And the gray sea trout off Florida is built differently than the gray sea trout found elsewhere.

To find out what causes these differences in the same kind of fish, Dr. William E. Fahy of the Institute of Fisheries Research, Morehead City, has been awarded \$30,100. This grant, from the National Science Foundation, will enable Dr. Fahy to expand his study of these different "races" of fish. The money will be used mainly to hire personnel to assist in the project.

It is known that temperature of the water, light, amount of salt and oxygen in the water, cause a fish spawned in one place to differ slightly from a fish spawned 200 miles away, even though the fish are same kind.

In 1957 Dr. Fahy designed unique apparatus that would permit study of the influence of these factors on a growing fish. In June 1958 the National Science Foundation awarded Dr. Fahy \$19,600. Most of that was spent for the specialized equipment necessary for the study.

As far as is known, the Institute of Fisheries Research is the only laboratory in North America equipped to study a saltwater fish as it grows and to determine what makes it grow a certain number of scales or develop a certain number of rays in its fins.

What will all this accomplish? It will be another door opened on the mysteries of fish—how they grow, why they grow the way they do, where they like to live—all of which must be known by man if he is going to successfully catch the fish.

Dr. Fahy is going to use both the gray sea trout and the spotted sea trout in his study. By controlling the temperature, amount of oxygen in the water, amount of light and other factors, Dr. Fahy expects to be able to produce in the laboratory a Virginia-type sea trout, North Carolina-type, etc.

In one year the gray sea trout and the spotted sea trout mean from \$800,000 to \$6 million to North Carolina commercial fishermen, and at least that much to sports fishermen. As with other types of fish, there is always much argu-



On the left Dr. William E. Fahy examines cultures of animals being raised as food for sea trout and on the right he checks the recording thermometer that continuously records the water temperature in each circulating chamber of the incubator.

ment as to when the fish should be caught, how they should be caught and whether catching a lot of the little fish will mean that eventually there won't be many big fish.

Much of that argument can be eliminated if, in the laboratory, man can learn all about the fish, and then govern the taking of it accordingly.

If Dr. Fahy is to be successful in his work, he must obtain ripe female sea trout in a spawning condition. That's where the fishermen themselves can be helpful.

If anyone knows the location—creek, shoal, inlet, slue or sandbar—where gray or spotted sea trout spawn, Dr. Fahy would sincerely appreciate receiving such information.

From mid-April through the last weeks of August, Dr. Fahy and his field crew will attempt to obtain eggs of the gray or spotted sea trout. They will go any distance at any time to get the females in proper condition.

Eggs cannot be stripped easily



Dr. William E. Fahy uses an electric lift to raise the lid of the incubation chamber where experimental sea trout are contained.

from the gray and spotted sea trout. While eggs can be obtained in that way, the eggs will not live through subsequent experiments.

The ideal ripe condition is to have the eggs pour out when the fish is merely held vertically over a pan. Naturally, female fish that close to spawning won't be easy to find. That's why Dr. Fahy is asking the help of fishermen.

Eggs or ripe females should NOT be sent to Dr. Fahy. They are useless. The only fish that will be of value are those taken under his supervision at the spawning site so that the eggs can be fertilized at the spot and transported in special containers to the laboratory.

Dr. Fahy may be contacted by phoning PA6-3338 or mail will

reach him at the Institute of Fisheries Research, UNC, Morehead City.

YPA, Beaufort, Meets With Steve Beachem

The Young People's auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist church, Beaufort, met at the home of Steve Beachem Tuesday night with eight members present.

We opened the meeting with song and prayer. Bible reading by the group was followed by Bible questions. The meeting closed with song and prayer and refreshments were served. The next meeting will be with June Lewis.

— Sharon Lewis, Reporter



Raymond Davis, laboratory assistant, separates growth stages of microscopic organisms used as food for experimental sea trout.

Court

(Continued from Page 1)

Winfield Buck, Herbert Anderson Willis—Speeding. Costs levied. Thomas Gordon Mattox—Speeding. \$10 and court costs.

Judgment was complied with in the following cases in which the execution of the sentence had been continued by the court:

Marvin Miller—Careless and reckless driving; \$25 and court costs.

Marvin James Miller—Speeding, careless and reckless driving and racing. \$100 and court costs.

Robert Avon Glover—Driving drunk—90 days in jail and roadwork, suspended on payment of \$100 and costs.

Howard Purifoy—Public drunkenness; 30 days in jail suspended on payment of costs.

John Bell Jr.—Assault, 30 days in jail suspended on condition that Bell remain on good behavior for six months, not molest the prosecuting witness in any manner for two years, and pay \$10 and court costs.

Henry Lester Hill—No operator's license, driving drunk, improper registration. He was found guilty of careless and reckless driving and driving without a license and

Newport PTA Approves Budget

Members of the Newport PTA approved their budget Tuesday night. The meeting, at the school, opened with devotions by the Rev. Carroll Hansley.

Girl Scouts gave a skit on cookie sales, and Mrs. Edith May, vocational guidance counselor at the school, spoke on the guidance program. Mrs. E. C. Jernigan, new faculty member, was introduced, as was her husband, who is high school supervisor for Carteret and Onslow counties.

A professional dance instructor spoke on tap, ballet and baton twirling. Attendance banners were won by Mrs. Geraldine Garner's third grade, John Thompson's sixth grade, and Mrs. Betty Mizelle's ninth grade.

John Henry Madden—Having no insurance. Judgment suspended on payment of costs within 30 days.

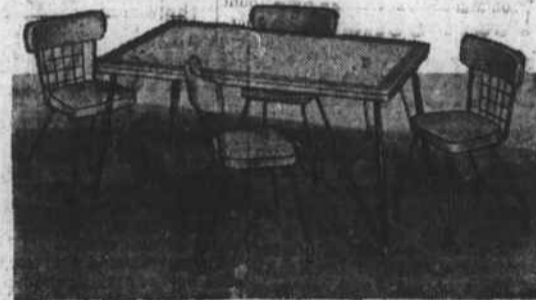
Eighty-four cases were continued.

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