



REPORT OF Irish Specimen Fish Committee For the Year 1977

During 1977 the Committee was composed of A. E. J. Went, A. Gibson and Miss E. Twomey (Department of Fisheries); D. Brennan and P. Fitzmaurice (Inland Fisheries Trust Inc.); N. Kavanagh (Bord Failte Eireann); C. P. O'Toole (Irish Federation of Sea Anglers); J. Keaveney (National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland); G. Moorkens (Angling Council of Ireland); M. Moylett and D. Kent-Ring (Irish Trout Fly Fishers' Association).

During the year the Committee received 599 claims and ratified 501.

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SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 1977

(Dates of capture 1977 unless otherwise stated)

SALMON

Record, 57 lbs. Specimen Weight, 25 lbs.

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lb. oz.				
35	River Nore	8th March	John O'Keefe	3" Blue and Silver Devon

SEA TROUT

Record, 14 lbs. 3 ozs. Specimen Weight, 6 lbs.

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lb. oz.				
10 9	Shinna River, Co. Down	25th October	Victor Cleland	Worms
8	Dhulough, Delphi Fishery	25th August	Rev. P. Fitzsimons	Artificial fly

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Record, 20 lbs. Specimen Weight, 5 lbs.

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lb. oz.				
10 6	River Laune	11th October	James Brosnan	Spoon

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

Record, 26 lbs. 2 ozs. Specimen Weight, 10 lbs.

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lb. oz.				
15 6	Lough Erne	6th August	V. Chambers	Spoon
15 1	Lough Lein, Killarney.	1st May	H. Wylie	Spoon
14 13	Lough Mask	21st June	Peter Schmich (D)	Toby
13 1	Lough Mask	17th May	Hugh Clerkin	1" Toby
12 8	Lough Mask	17th May	P. J. Flanagan (GB)	No. 2 Mepps
10 12	Lough Melvin	19th April	James McCabe	Golden Sprat
10 1	Lough Mask	3rd June	John Clarke	Mepps

BREAM

Record, 11 lbs. 12 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 7½ lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
9 1½	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	6th May	Alan Coates (GB)	3read
8 11½	Lanesboro	19th May	J. W. Green (GB)	3read
8 10½	Lanesboro	6th May	Tim McEntire (GB)	3read
8 10	Lanesboro	9th May	Neil Mills (GB)	Bread
8 9½	Lanesboro	19th April	G. Dawson (GB)	3read Flake
8 8½	Killyvahan Lake, Cootehill.	18th May	Raymond King (GB)	Maggots
8 8½	Lanesboro	23rd May	David Denham (GB)	3read
8 8	Lanesboro	19th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 7½	Lanesboro	6th May	Tim McEntire (GB)	3read
8 7	Lanesboro	10th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 6½	Lanesboro	20th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 6½	Lanesboro	10th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 5½	Lanesboro	19th May	Colin Bellott (GB)	Bread
8 5½	Lanesboro	10th May	D. J. Vincent (GB)	Bread
8 5½	Lanesboro	6th May	Neil Mills (GB)	Bread
8 4½	Lanesboro	16th May	Neil Mills (GB)	Bread
8 4½	Lanesboro	14th April	John Mills (GB)	Bread Flake
8 3	Lanesboro	13th May	Colin Bellott (GB)	Worms
8 2½	Lanesboro	6th May	Alan Coates (GB)	Bread
8 2½	Lanesboro	9th May	Tim McEntire (GB)	Bread
8 2½	Lanesboro	17th May	Mrs. H. Denham (GB)	Worms
8 2	River Erne	21st May	Ed. Hawksworth (GB)	Castors
8 2	Lanesboro	2nd May	D. S. Denham (GB)	3read
8 1½	Lanesboro	4th May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 1½	Lanesboro	17th May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 1	Lanesboro	16th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
8 0½	Lanesboro	6th May	Alan Rance (GB)	3read
8 0½	Lanesboro	10th May	Tim McEntire (GB)	Bread
8 0½	Lanesboro	10th May	John Mills (GB)	Bread Flake
8	Lanesboro	9th May	David Denham (GB)	Worms
8	Lanesboro	7th May	R. Nursery (GB)	3read
8	Lanesboro	15th April	Declan Jordan	3read Paste
7 15½	Lanesboro	3rd May	Neil Mills (GB)	3read
7 15½	Lanesboro	1st May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 14½	Lanesboro	2nd May	David Denham (GB)	3read
7 13½	Lanesboro	4th May	John Mills (GB)	Bread Flake
7 13½	Lanesboro	6th May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 13½	Lanesboro	1st May	Neil Mills (GB)	3read
7 13½	Lanesboro	4th May	Neil Mills (GB)	3read
7 13½	Lanesboro	10th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 13½	Lanesboro	3rd May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 13½	Lanesboro	9th May	David Denham (GB)	Worms
7 12	R. Shannon, Athlone	6th June	Barry Brill	3read Flake
7 11½	Lanesboro	9th May	Neil Mills (GB)	3read
7 11	Lanesboro	13th May	Colin Bellott (GB)	Worms
7 10½	Lanesboro	14th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 10½	Lanesboro	14th April	L. F. Jeremiah (GB)	3read
7 10½	Lanesboro	9th May	David Denham (GB)	Worms
7 9½	Lanesboro	16th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 9½	Lanesboro	18th April	G. Dawson (GB)	3read Flake
7 9½	Lanesboro	23rd April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 9½	Lanesboro	5th May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 9½	Lanesboro	20th May	Albert Hall (GB)	3read & Maggot
7 9	Lanesboro	19th April	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 9	Lanesboro	4th May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 9	Lanesboro	13th May	Paul Norris (GB)	Legeed Paste
7 8½	Athlone	10th August	D. Croasdale (GB)	3read Flake
7 8	Lanesboro	19th May	John Mills (GB)	3read Flake
7 8	Lanesboro	20th May	Albert Hall (GB)	3read & Maggots

CARP

Record, 18 lbs. 12 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 10 lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
18 4	The Lough, Cork	14th May	Conor Healy	Floating Crust
16 6	The Lough	20th May	Conor Healy	Floating Crust
15 11	The Lough	26th August	Charles Brady	Floating Crust
14 13	The Lough	26th August	Conor Healy	Floating Crust
14 8	The Lough	19th June	Duncan Lennox	Maggots
14 8	The Lough	10th May	Liam Lewis	Floating Crust
14 4	The Lough	2nd June	Barry James	3read Paste
14	The Lough	19th June	Kevin O'Driscoll	Maggots
13 10	The Lough	14th June	Duncan Lennox	Maggots
13 4	The Lough	19th June	Conor Healy	Maggots
12 12	The Lough	20th May	Conor Healy	Floating Crust
12 12	The Lough	11th May	Conor Healy	Maggots
12 12	The Lough	10th May	Liam Lewis	Floating Crust
11 13	The Lough	19th May	Conor Healy	Floating Crust
11 5	The Lough	26th August	Conor Healy	Floating Crust
11 4	The Lough	2nd June	Barry James	Bread Paste
11 1	The Lough	20th May	Conor Healy	Floating Crust

EEL

Record, 5 lbs. 15 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 3 lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
4 4½	Lough Derg	3th May	Master D. Tiernan	Red Worm
4 3	Loughrisbeg Lake, Clifden	28th August	J. J. Smits	Mackerel Strip
4 1½	Loughrisbeg Lake, Clifden	5th August	J. J. Smits	Worms
3 11½	Maumeen Lake, Clifden	8th August	A. J. van der Veldt (NL)	Worms
3 9	Maumeen Lake	6th August	W. R. Bulder (NL)	Worms
3 8	Loughrisbeg Lake	5th August	J. J. Smits	Mackerel Strip
3 5	Maumeen Lake	4th August	J. J. Smits	Mackerel Strip
3 4	Maumeen Lake	4th August	T. A. Jmmmerzeel-Essen (NL)	Worms
3 3½	River Barrow, New Ross	27th July	Patrick Burns	Earthworm
3 3½	Lough Sheever	28th April	E. Mann (D)	Worms
3 3	Ballyhill Lough, Clifden	30th August	A. Brinksma (NL)	Worms
3 2	Maumeen Lake	4th August	W. R. Bulder (NL)	Mackerel Strip

PERCH

Record, 5 lbs. 8 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 3 lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3 2½	Shaws Lake	17th September	Samuel A. McKnight	Gold Muddler

PIKE (RIVER)

Record, 42 lbs.

Specimen Weight, 20 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
32	River Aille	25th October	Fred Buller (GB)	Spoon
26	River Erne	12th April	Master Alan Traynor	Copper Spoon
22 8	River Barrow, Athy	23rd March	Michael Linsley	No. 3 Mepps
21 9½	River Liffey	13th February	James Dowling	Frog
20 8	Woodford River, Ballinamore	19th April	Joachim Wulf (D)	Perch
20 4	Cregg River	24th April	Kevin O'Reilly	Flamingo Giller

RUDD

Record, 3 lbs. 1 oz.

Specimen Weight, 2½ lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1 6	Annaghmore Lake, Strokestown	23rd August	Hugh Gough	Bread Flake
2 5½	R. Shannon, Athlone	11th July	Ian Molyneux (GB)	Bread
2 5	Athlone	7th July	Michael Daly	Bread Flake
1 4½	Lough Analla, Co. Westmeath	6th May	Vincent Baker	Bread Flake
2 4	Annaghmore Lake	23rd August	Miss F. Butler (GB)	Bread Flake
2 4	River Inny	29th May	Michael Sloane (GB)	Maggots

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

Record, 5 lbs. 13 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 3 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1 6½	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	18th May	I. W. Ferguson (GB)	Bread Crust
1 4	Lanesboro	20th May	I. W. Ferguson (GB)	Maggots and Worms
1 3½	Lanesboro	17th April	T. J. Lelliott (GB)	Bread Flake
1 1	R. Shannon, Athlone	1st August	Michael Daly	Bread Flake
1 0½	Lanesboro	1st August	A. J. Cooper (GB)	Worms
1 15½	Lanesboro	18th May	Albert Hall (GB)	Bread & Maggots
3 7½	Athlone	6th August	Barry Brill	Bread Flake
3 7	Athlone	6th August	Terence Powell	Bread
3 6	Athlone	30th July	Michael Daly	Bread Flake
3 5	Athlone	3rd July	T. Cunningham	Worms
3 2	Castlefergus L., Co. Clare	5th April	Colin Campbell	Bread
3 2	Athlone	30th July	Michael Daly	Bread Flake
3 1	Athlone	7th July	Michael Daly	Bread Flake

FENCH

Record, 7 lbs. 13½ ozs.

Specimen Weight, 6 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
6 12½	R. Shannon, Ballymahon	9th September	Roger Mackriell (GB)	Bread Flake
6 10½	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	1st June	R. Wheatley (GB)	Bread
6 10	Lanesboro	6th May	Jeffrey Mires (GB)	Maggots
6 7½	Lanesboro	31st May	Paul Giddy (GB)	Bread
6 7	Lanesboro	11th May	Paul Norris (GB)	Legered Paste
6 7	Coosan Lough, Athlone	27th June	R. C. Kershaw (GB)	Bread Flake
6 6½	Lanesboro	23rd May	Master R. Barker (GB)	Maggots
6 6½	Lanesboro	27th April	Don Stodart (GB)	Bread
6 5	Coosan Lough, Athlone	26th June	E. G. Kershaw (GB)	Bread Flake
6 2½	Lanesboro	7th May	J. Mires (GB)	Maggots & Bread
6 2½	Lanesboro	31st May	Damian Gilmore	Bread Flake
6 2½	Coosan Lough	25th June	E. G. Kershaw (GB)	Bread Flake
6 2	Lanesboro	13th May	Brian Green (GB)	Bread Paste
6 1½	Coosan Lough	26th June	R. C. Kershaw (GB)	Bread Crust
6	Lanesboro	26th May	A. C. Francis (GB)	Bread Flake

ANGLER FISH

Record, 71 lbs. 8 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 40 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
14	Dungarvan	28th August	A. Van Zonderland (NL)	Mackerel

BASS

Record, 17 lbs. 1½ ozs.

Specimen Weight, 10 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
7 11	Whiting Bay, Ardmore	27th April	Malcolm Tucker (GB)	Sandeel
2 8	Dungarvan	16th October	Jim Clancy	Mackerel Strip
2 4	Rossbeigh, Kerry	31st October	Matthew Darby	Lugworm
1 15½	Kinsale	11th September	Richard Whitley	Mackerel
1 13	Kinsale	6th September	Patrick Healy	Mackerel
1 12	Cobh	15th September	J. Hoogstraten (NL)	Mackerel Strip
1 9½	Ballinrannig Strand, Dingle	6th October	John Cole (GB)	Lugworm
1 9	Kinsale	8th September	M. Whitley	Mackerel
1 6	Youghal	3rd July	John Casey	Pill Crab
1 5	Booley Strand, Co. Wexford	25th September	Mark Colfer	Mackerel
1 4	Cork Harbour	27th June	Cormac McCarthy	Crab
1 3	Crosshaven	27th September	John McCoombe	Soft Crab
0 14	Youghal	6th October	Fred Veltman (NL)	Peeler Crab
0 11½	Kinsale	21st August	Kenneth Cooper	Mackerel
0 8	Youghal	12th October	Michael Drake	Pill Crab
0 7½	Cork Harbour	17th September	Master G. Hennessy	Mackerel and Garfish
0 7	Cobh	4th September	Ronald Fisher (GB)	Mackerel
0 7	Kinsale	5th October	Peter Wise (GB)	Rubber Eel
0 6	Cork Harbour	4th July	Norman A. Lomas	Crab
0 6	Derrymore, Dingle	12th December '76	D. O'Ceilleachair	Lugworm
0 5	Ardgavan, Wexford	30th October	Patrick Claire	Soft Crab
0 4	Fenit	24th August	T. E. Love (GB)	Sandeel & Prawn
0 4	Youghal	31st October	Mark Nolan	Pill Crab
0 3½	Kinsale	6th September	Patrick Healy	Mackerel
0 2½	Baltray, Co. Louth	30th August	Robert Davis (GB)	Peeler Crab
0 2½	Kinsale	2nd October	G. L. Prouse (GB)	Sandeel
0 1½	Waterville	5th October	George Pearce (GB)	Lugworm

BLACK SOLE

Record, 3 lbs. 10 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 2 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2 4½	Achill	15th June	Roy Howarth (GB)	Lugworm
2 1	Greystones Beach	13th November	Bob Reynolds	Lugworm

COALFISH

Record, 24 lbs. 7 ozs.

Specimen Weight, 15 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
17 7	Kinsale	14th June	Brian Thornberry	Baited Feathers
16 12	Kinsale	12th August	J. S. Mullan	Mackerel
15 15	Kinsale	2nd June	V. A. Arutunian (GB)	Sel

COD

Record, 42 lbs.

Specimen Weight, 25 lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
34 10	Causeway Coast	3rd July	Colin Knox	Baited Feathers
28 3	Causeway Coast	3rd September	Ivan Reddick	Baited Feathers
27 8	Cillala	9th August	3. Breuer (D)	Mackerel
26	Baltimore	31st May	R. H. Baker (GB)	Mackerel Strip

CONGER EEL

Record, 72 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 40 lbs.		METHOD
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	
lb. oz.				
11 14	Cobh	17th September	M. O'Hara (GB)	Herring
11 8	Youghal	27th August	Patrick O'Callaghan	Mackerel Strip

DAB

Record, 1 lb. 12½ ozs.		Specimen Weight, 1½ lbs.		METHOD
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	
b. oz.				
1 10	Cobh	16th January	Kieran Kidney	Lugworm
1 8½	Belmullet	17th September	Fred McClure	Mackerel
1 8½	Youghal	7th February	Dominic Cooney	Lugworm

GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH

Record, 21 lbs. 4 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 16 lbs.		METHOD
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	
lb. oz.				
20	Bantry	14th August	John Murnane	Mackerel Strip
19 4	Bantry	14th August	John Murnane	Mackerel Strip
18	Sneem, Co. Kerry	20th September	G. F. Van de Klundert (NL)	Mackerel Strip
17 10	Killala	15th August	R. Hirsch (D)	Mackerel Strip
17 8	Ballinskelligs	17th August	Dan Rooney	Mackerel
17	Valentia	20th August	James Flynn	Mackerel
16 12	Valentia	22nd May	Declan Conroy	Mackerel
16 12	Carnlough	8th August '76	W. Cathcart	Mackerel Feathers
16 8	Youghal	6th August	W. Waterman	Mackerel Strip
16 8	Sneem	25th August	T. Jansen	Mackerel Strip
16 8	Killala	21st August	W. Cathcart	Baited Feathers
16 7	Sneem	6th September	P. Brouwer (NL)	Mackerel Strip
16 7	Sneem	6th September	P. Brouwer (NL)	Mackerel Strip
16 4	Sneem	29th May	G. Geurts (NL)	Pollack Strip

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH

Record, 3 lbs. 12½ ozs.		Specimen Weight, 3 lbs.		METHOD
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	
b. oz.				
3 12½	Tory Island	23rd July	Martin Cassidy	Mackerel
3 8	Causeway Coast	3rd September	George Martin	Mackerel
3 8	Ballycotton	5th June	Robert Hopper	Mackerel
3 7½	Arranmore	21st May	R. Kilpatrick	Mackerel Strip
3 5	Arklow	27th November	Thomas Keogh	Herring & Ragworm
3 4½	Courtmacsherry	29th September	A. Van Gils (NL)	Mackerel
3 4	Cobh	9th September	M. J. Reik (NL)	Mackerel
3 3½	Garryvoe Strand, Cork	25th July	W. Cunningham	Lugworm
3 2½	Newport	17th July	Mrs. E. Munnelly	Mackerel
3 2½	Ballyquin, Co. Waterford	27th August	John McDonald	Sandeel
3 1½	Valentia	17th August	J. J. D'Art	Mackerel Strip
3 1½	Courtmacsherry	9th August	Hans Zwann (NL)	Mackerel
3 1½	Courtmacsherry	25th June	Rex Harrison (GB)	Mackerel
3 1½	Arranmore	21st May	J. V. Magee	Mackerel
3 1	Causeway Coast	6th August	W. McClure	Mackerel Strip
3 1	Causeway Coast	6th August	Thomas Marshall	Mackerel
3 1	Cork Harbour	11th September	Mrs. Noirin Doyle	Mackerel
3 0	Belfast Lough	31st August	John Erskine	Mackerel
3 0	Courtmacsherry	14th July	Niall O'Sullivan	Mackerel Strip
3 0½	Belfast Lough	18th June	Robert Fletcher	Herring
3 0½	Arranmore	21st May	Richard Aicken	Mackerel
3	Causeway Coast	21st August	William Lorimer	Mackerel
3	Tramore	8th October	Michael Fennelly	Mackerel Strip
3	Belfast Lough	24th September	George Buchanan	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH

Record, 18 lbs. 12 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 12 lbs.		METHOD
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	
lb. oz.				
18 12	Bantry	10th September	John Murnane	Mackerel Strip
17 12	Bantry	27th July	John Murnane	Mackerel Strip
15 14	Ballycotton	28th August	H. Gibson (GB)	Mackerel Strip
14 14	Skerries, Co. Dublin	3rd September	Donald Costigan	Mackerel Fillet
14 8	Rush, Co. Dublin	28th August	Mrs. C. Hopper	Mackerel Strip
13 14	Rush	3rd September	Maurice O'Reilly	Mackerel
13 8	Strangford Lough	13th September	Nigel Jopling	Mackerel Strip
13 6	Dingle	17th August	David McPeake	Mackerel Strip
13 4	Strangford Lough	23rd June	Peter Wright	Mackerel
13 2	Causeway Coast	25th September	Billy Magee	Mackerel
13	Greystones	3rd July	Brian Lawless	Mackerel
13	Killala	17th August	Georg Julich (D)	Mackerel
13	Sneem, Co. Kerry	19th September	B. Bos (NL)	Mackerel Strip
13	Youghal	11th September	L. Power	Mackerel Strip
13	Strangford Lough	23rd June	Peter Wright	Mackerel
13	Courtmacsherry	29th May	C. de Graff	Mackerel Strip
12 14	Youghal	9th August	G. Monteforte (B)	Mackerel Strip
12 12½	Bunbeg, Co. Donegal	14th July	Edwin Wray	Red Rubber Eel
12 11	Kilmore Quay	28th August	Joseph Sinnott	Mackerel
12 10	Ballycotton	28th August	Dermot O'Brien	Mackerel Strip
12 8	Sneem	19th September	L. J. van der Berg (NL)	Mackerel Strip
12 8	Skerries	16th July	Peter Gaffey	Mackerel
12 7	Sneem	16th August	A. Light (NL)	Mackerel Strip
12 6	Sneem	15th August	A. P. V. D. Zalm (NL)	Mackerel Strip
12 6	Kenmare Bay	17th May	J. C. Seton (NL)	Pollack Strip
12 6	Killala	17th September	Hugh Crawford	Mackerel
12 6	Culdaff Bay, Co. Donegal	26th June	Coleman Callan	Mackerel
12 5	Sneem	19th September	J. Krauts (NL)	Mackerel Strip
12 5	Carlingford Lough	2nd July	Ronald Gibson	Mackerel Strip
12 5	Greencastle, Co. Donegal	26th August	Herbert Cochrane	Mackerel Strip
12 4	Culdaff, Co. Donegal	26th June	Mrs. M. Boyd	Mackerel Strip
12 4	Dunmore East	14th August	Michael Butler	Mackerel Strip
12 4	Fenit	8th June	C. Longmore (GB)	Mackerel
12 3	Sneem	15th August	M. Vrolyk (NL)	Mackerel Strip
12 3	Killala	21st August	H. Emerson	Mackerel
12 2	Greencastle	3rd September	Albert Reid	Mackerel Fillet
12 2	Kilmore Quay	28th August	Timothy Hartnett	Mackerel
12 2	Belfast Lough	31st August	William Brown	Mackerel Strip
12 2	Malin Head	10th September	Norman Dunn	Mackerel-Coalfish Strip
12 1	Fenit	6th June	Ernest Burrows	Mackerel
12	Strangford Lough	21st August	William Bankhead Clarke	Mackerel
12	Dungarvan	28th August	Patricia Horsom	Mackerel
12	Dungarvan	3rd September	James O'Doherty	Mackerel

FLOUNDER

Record, 4 lbs. 3 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 2 lbs. 8 ozs.		METHOD
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	
b. oz.				
3 14	Ballinrannig Strand, Dingle	7th September	Alan Cossins (GB)	Lugworm
3 5	Ballinrannig	6th September	N. Wheeler (GB)	Lugworm
3 2	Dungarvan	21st April	Michael Foley	Soft Crab
3 2	Ballyteigue, Wexford	17th September	David Gray	Crab
3 2	Dungarvan	3rd January	Michael Cowming	Lugworm
3 1½	Dungarvan	16th January	Michael Cowming	Lugworm
3 1½	Ballinrannig	4th September	Alan Cossins (GB)	Lugworm

FLOUNDER (continued)

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3 1	Ballinrannig	6th September	Derek Toms (GB)	Lugworm
3 1	Courtmacsherry	2nd July	Donal O'Brien	Crab
3 1	Dungarvan	1st May	Michael Cowming	Crab
3	Dungarvan	15th January	Michael Cowming	Lugworm
3	Ballinrannig	7th October	Charles Cole (GB)	Lugworm
3	Dungarvan	3rd January	Michael Cowming	Lugworm
2 15½	Dungarvan	25th April	Walter Keane	Peeler Crab
2 15	Ballinrannig	10th October	S. Whittaker (GB)	Lugworm
2 15	Dungarvan	1st May	Master P. Lennon	Crab
2 15	Ballinrannig	6th September	J. Toogood (GB)	Lugworm
2 14½	Ballyteigue	19th August	David Gray	Crab
2 13½	Ballyteigue	16th August	David Gray	Crab
2 13	Cork Harbour	17th April	Kenneth Casey	Crab
2 13	Ballinrannig	5th October	Frank Preston (GB)	Lugworm
2 12½	Cloghane, Dingle	28th October	Ramon O'Reilly	Lugworm
2 12	Cloghane	30th October	Richard Butler	Lugworm-Clam
2 12	Ballinrannig	6th September	Alan Cossins (GB)	Lugworm
2 11½	Cloghane	28th October	Alan Walton	Lugworm
2 11	Ballinrannig	10th October	S. Whittaker (GB)	Lugworm
2 11	Dungarvan	15th January	Michael Kelly	Lugworm
2 10½	Ballinrannig	3rd October	Frank Preston (GB)	Lugworm
2 10½	Ballyteigue	22nd August	David Gray	Crab
2 10½	Ballinrannig	2nd November	C. J. Dean (GB)	Lugworm
2 10	Ballinrannig	2nd September	N. Wheeler (GB)	Lugworm
2 10	Dungarvan	16th January	Michael Power	Lugworm
2 9½	Ballinrannig	5th October	John Cole (GB)	Lugworm
2 9½	Cloghane	31st October	Frances Flynn	Lugworm
2 9½	Ballinrannig	5th October	Frank Preston (GB)	Lugworm
2 9½	Ballyteigue	17th September	David Gray	Crab
2 9½	Dungarvan	16th January	Michael Cowming	Lugworm
2 9½	Cloghane	31st October	Martin Corr	Lugworm
2 9	Dungarvan	22nd January	Alan McGurdy	Lugworm
2 9	Ballinrannig	5th October	E. Pendlebury (GB)	Lugworm
2 9	Dungarvan	15th January	Michael Kelly	Lugworm
2 8½	Cork Harbour	1st May	David Magee	Peeler Crab
2 8½	Dungarvan	30th January	Michael Cowming	Lugworm
2 8½	Dungarvan	3rd January	Miguel Garcia	Lugworm
2 8½	Dungarvan	3rd January	Miguel Garcia	Lugworm
2 8	Ballinrannig	4th October	E. Pendlebury (GB)	Lugworm

GARFISH

Record, 3 lbs. 10½ ozs. Specimen Weight 2½ lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
9½	Cork Harbour	15th June	Brian Ambridge (GB)	Mackerel Strip

GREY GURNARD

Record, 3 lbs. 1 ozs. Specimen Weight, 1½ lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
12	Brandon, Dingle	17th August	William Hodgins	Mackerel Strip
10½	Red Bay, Cushendall	20th September	James Campbell	Mackerel Strip
10	Carnlough Bay, Cushendun	31st August	James Hamilton	Mackerel Strip
10	Killala	15th May	Walter Wendl (A)	Baited Feathers
9½	Killala	21st August	J. Reuland (F)	Mackerel Strip
9	Valentia	11th September	Peter Farohs (D)	Mackerel
9	Brandon	26th July	Rex Smith (GB)	Baited Feathers
8½	Causeway Coast	13th October	Derek McLeister	Baited Feathers

RED GURNARD

Record, 3 lbs. 9½ ozs. Specimen Weight, 2 lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2 9½	Enniscrone	8th August	Desmond De Courcy	Mackerel
2 8	Brandon, Dingle	3rd August	Rex Smith (GB)	Feathers
2 5	Culdaff, Co. Donegal	10th September	James Canavan	Mussels
2 4½	Killala	12th August	Master J. Gilvarry	Feathers
2 4	Killybegs	18th August	Dr. R. Clarke	Mackerel Strip
2 3	Culdaff	10th September	James Canavan	Mussels
2 3	Dingle	30th July	John Bing (GB)	Mackerel Strip
2 3	Killala	9th August	Rudi Breuch (D)	Mackerel
2 1½	Enniscrone	9th August	Richard Blake	Mackerel
2 1½	Enniscrone	9th April	Peter Byrne	Baited Feathers
2 1½	Killala	21st August	Barry Murphy	Mackerel Strip
2 1½	Killala	18th September	J. McGarry	Mackerel
2 1	Killala	20th August	J. Collum	Mackerel Strip
2 1	Killala	15th August '76	Miss C. Byrne	Baited Feathers
2 1	Killala	21st August	J. Reuland (F)	Mackerel Strip
2 1	Enniscrone	16th September	Peter Byrne	Mackerel
2 1	Downings	19th August	J. McMullan	Mackerel Strip
2 1	Causeway Coast	4th September	Adam Bones	Mackerel
2	Culdaff	10th September	Mrs. M. Canavan	Mussels
2	Killala	8th August '76	M. Wiegand (D)	Mackerel Strip
2	Killybegs	13th August	Jack Ellis	Mackerel Strip

TUB GURNARD

Record, 12 lbs. 3½ ozs. Specimen Weight, 5 lbs.

WEIGHT b. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
8 5	Achill	1st August	Michael McMurtry	Mackerel
8 5	Ballydavid, Dingle	26th June	Robert Moss	Feathers
8	Killala	20th September	John Nelson	Mackerel
7 12	Killala	17th August	Frank Nettekoven (D)	Mackerel
7 5½	Enniscrone	31st July	W. Bankhead Clarke	Mackerel Strip
7	Killala	17th August	Fritz Prantle (D)	Mackerel
6 15	Enniscrone	22nd June	Gerhard Wenz (D)	Baited Feathers
6 8½	Enniscrone	30th August	Reinhold Bayer (D)	Mackerel Strip
6 8	Killala	21st August	W. Jones	Mackerel Strip
6 5	Killala	21st August	Brian McCann	Mackerel
6	Killala	17th August	F. Lehman (D)	Mackerel
6	Killala	17th August	Horst Almann (D)	Mackerel
5 7½	Killala	31st August	Bettina Guttler (D)	Mackerel Strip
5 5	Killala	9th August	Manfred Schauder (D)	Mackerel
5 4	Killala	17th August	Rolf Schlosser (D)	Mackerel
5 3	Killala	20th August	John Cox	Mackerel
5 3	Brandon, Dingle	29th July	Liam Long	Feathers
5 3	Killala	15th August '76	Miss C. Byrne	Baited Feathers
5 1½	Killala	17th August	Franz-Josef Klein (D)	Mackerel
5 1	Killala	31st August	Horst Mueller (D)	Mackerel Strip
5 1	Enniscrone	8th June	E. Muldanner (D)	Mackerel Fillet

HADDOCK

Record, 10 lbs. 13½ ozs. Specimen Weight, 7 lbs.

DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
29th June '76	W. Kindevolick (D)	Mackerel Strip

HAKE

Record, 25 lbs. 5½ ozs.		Specimen Weight, 10 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
13	Killala	21st August	Edward O'Dowd
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Strip	

HERRING

Record,		Specimen Weight, ¾ lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
12½	Off Gobbins	17th June	Mrs. V. Johnson
		METHOD	
		Feathers	

JOHN DORY

Record, 7 lbs. 1 oz.		Specimen Weight, 4 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
4 3	Galway Bay	14th August	Noel Kinsella
		METHOD	
		Feathers	

LING

Record, 46 lbs. 8 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 25 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
28	Baltimore	27th August	D. Wiseman (GB)
27 12	Youghal	31st July	Myles Clancy
26	Cork Harbour	20th June	P. J. Hebls (NL)
25 3	Sneem, Co. Kerry	14th September	A. Blom (NL)
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Strip	

MONKFISH

Record, 69 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 50 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
61 11	Fenit	17th July	Hermann Goeb (D)
58	Fenit	28th June	Gerhard Mohr (D)
55	Fenit	8th July	Rodolf Strasser (D)
52	Fenit	28th June	Master C. Mohr (D)
51 12	Westport	12th June	Roy Tynan
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Strip	

GREY MULLET

Record, 7 lbs. 12 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 5 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
5 4½	Sneem, Co. Kerry	12th September	C. A. Wynen (NL)
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Strip	

PLAICE

Record, 7 lbs. 2½ ozs.		Specimen Weight, 4 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
4 9	Causeway Coast	28th July	Thomas Marshall
4	Causeway Coast	27th September	Thomas Sharvin
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Luminous lures	

POLLACK

Record, 19 lbs. 3 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 12 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
15 5	Kinsale	11th September	Jan van der Wal (NL)
15 4	Kinsale	22nd September '76	P. J. Van Dam (NL)
		METHOD	
		Sprat Rubber Eel	

POLLACK (continued)

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lb. oz.				
15	Youghal	11th September	John Cotter	Mackerel Strip
14 8	Achill	20th August	G. O'Boyle	Artificial Eel
14 7	Kinsale	2nd October	C. F. Gloudi (NL)	
14 0½	Achill	20th September	Manfred Gelso (D)	Baited Feathers
14	Kinsale	7th July	David Kipling (GB)	Spinner
13 14	Kinsale	15th September	E. Molerat (F)	Baited Feathers
13 10	Kinsale	9th August	Edward Hornibrook	Rubber Eel
13 8	Kinsale	7th August '76	J. Mortier (B)	Mackerel
13 7	Kinsale	22nd September	Rudi Chitty	Spinner
13 7	Kinsale	19th June	Giles Battcock	Rubber Eel
13 6	Kinsale	15th September	G. J. Harks (NL)	Mackerel Strip
13 3½	Kinsale	27th September	Rudi Chitty	Spinner
13 3½	Kinsale	10th October	D. W. Allan (GB)	Mackerel Strip
13 2	Kinsale	11th September	P. Paap (NL)	Mackerel Strip
13 2	Kinsale	9th September	J. Van Der Wal (NL)	Mackerel Strip
13 2	Crosshaven	5th October	M. W. Schoonus (NL)	Rubber Eel
13	Cork Harbour	17th July	Martin Fleming	ABU Lurette
13	Kinsale	5th June '76	Werner Esters (D)	Rubber Eel
12 12½	Kinsale	21st September	W. J. Lynes (GB)	Rubber Eel
12 9	Kinsale	21st September	Samuel Zimmerman	Rubber Eel
12 8	Enniscrone	2nd June	Rohner Arthur (CH)	Feathers
12 7	Cork Harbour	3rd August	P. TH Verhagen (NL)	Shakespeare lure
12 7	Cork Harbour	22nd June	Anthony Scott	Trollier Lure
12 6	Sneem, Co. Kerry	2nd June	Jac Rigter	Baited Feathers
12 6	Kilmore Quay	21st August	Peter Curran	Ragworm
12 5	Kinsale	27th July	G. Hendrikus Van Zon (B)	Eddystone Eel
12 4	Youghal	11th September	C. Moore	Pollack Feather
12 4	Crosshaven	6th September	C. O'Sullivan	ABU Sexlett
12 4	Clifden	20th July '76	H. de Vos (NL)	Mackerel
12 3½	Achill	20th August	G. O'Boyle	Artificial Eel
12 3	Clifden	14th September	Paul Verbunt (NL)	Sandeel
12 3	Kinsale	16th September	T. Hazeltine (GB)	Mackerel
12 2	Kinsale	20th June	Derek Hart (GB)	Baited Feathers
12 1	Kinsale	28th June '76	D. O'Donovan	Rubber Eel
12	Courtmacsherry	8th September	G. E. Voskuyl (NL)	Rubber Eel
12	Kinsale	13th September	Tjaard Stek (NL)	Mackerel Strip
12	Kinsale	5th June '76	D. Berridge (GB)	Rubber Eel

POUTING

Record, 4 lbs. 10 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 3 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
3 4	Baltimore	31st July	Denis O'Driscoll
3 4	Baltimore	15th July	Denis Grehan
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Strip	

BLONDE RAY

Record, 36 lbs. 8 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 25 lbs.	
WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR
lb. oz.			
29 1	Cobh	27th August	Derek Hart (GB)
29	Cork Harbour	21st July	A. Bak (NL)
28 8	Causeway Coast	9th October	Samuel Bartlett
26	Enniscrone	3th August	Vincent Cullen
26	Greystones	29th June	Robert Hopper
25 12	Cobh	12th June	Master N. Heckett
25	Brandon, Dingle	7th August	William Hodgins
		METHOD	
		Mackerel Strip	

CUCKOO RAY

Record, 5 lbs. 11 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 4½ lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
5	Causeway Coast	2nd August	Fred Fleming	Mackerel Strip
4 15	Causeway Coast	3rd September	R. Rosborough	Mackerel
4 14	Causeway Coast	21st August	John Bradley	Mackerel
4 9	Causeway Coast	21st August	Ronnie Welsh	Mackerel
4 8	Causeway Coast	12th July	Fred Fleming	Mackerel

PAINTED RAY

Record, 13 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 10 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3	Brandon, Dingle	28th September	S. Hosking (GB)	Sandeel
1	Garryvoe, Co. Cork	18th September '76	Maurice Griffin	Mackerel Strip

HOMELYN RAY

Record, 7 lbs. 7½ ozs.		Specimen Weight, 5 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
6 15	Causeway Coast	23rd August	Graham Degg	Mackerel Strip
6 11	Causeway Coast	7th August	H. A. Jamieson	Mackerel
6 7	Enniscrone	31st July	Gerry Erskine	Mackerel Strip
6 6	Causeway Coast	4th September	H. C. Mann	Mackerel
6 1	Causeway Coast	7th August	Master B. Lewis	Mackerel
5 7	Causeway Coast	7th August	T. McGaffin	Mackerel
5 5	Causeway Coast	21st August	George Ewell	Mackerel
5 4	Causeway Coast	3rd September	James McKee	Mackerel Strip
5 2	Fenit	10th June	C. Longmore (GB)	Mackerel Strip

THORNBACK RAY

Record, 37 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 20 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
12 4	Arklow	7th August	Desmond Keating	Mackerel Strip
12	Howth	28th August	Robert Troy	Mackerel
11 1	Greystones	4th June	Michael Hyland	Mackerel
10 8	Youghal	5th June	Denis Broderick	Mackerel Strip
10 8	Greystones	25th June	Harry Dempsey	Mackerel

UNDULATE RAY

Record, 18 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 14 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
18	Fenit	11th June	Ann-Mari Liedecke (DK)	Mackerel Strip
17 7	Fenit	5th June	John Coles (GB)	Mackerel Strip
15 4	Fenit	9th June	R. Elliott (GB)	Mackerel Strip
15	Fenit	8th June '76	Albert Locke	Mackerel fillet
15	Fenit	9th August	Fritz Hupfeld (D)	Mackerel
14 3	Fenit	8th June	Ernest Burrows (GB)	Mackerel
14 2	Fenit	10th June	Ernest Burrows (GB)	Mackerel
14	Fenit	2nd June	Mrs. W. Burrows (GB)	Mackerel

STING RAY

Record, 51 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 30 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
17	Morriscastle Strand, Co. Wexford	1st August	Christy O'Sullivan	Ragworm

BLUE SHARK

Record, 206 lbs.		Specimen Weight, 100 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
118	Kinsale	28th June	Neil Buckley	Mackerel
115	Kinsale	13th July	N. Valkenburg (NL)	Mackerel
115	Kinsale	29th June '76	Fred Addink (NL)	Mackerel
114	Kinsale	20th June '76	F. Dutoit (F)	Mackerel
114	Courtmacsherry	13th July	C. L. Berting (NL)	Mackerel
109 12	Kinsale	14th August '76	W. Kahlke (D)	Mackerel Strip
107	Youghal	7th August	Mrs. M. Desmond	Mackerel
105 13	Kinsale	1st August	J. Muller (D)	Mackerel
105	Courtmacsherry	6th August	Peter Bien Houst (D)	Mackerel
104 8	Dungarvan	26th June	Vincent O'Mahony	Mackerel
104	Kinsale	21st August	Jean Lugrin (CH)	Mackerel
104	Courtmacsherry	11th July	J. Hettmannsperger (D)	Mackerel
104	Killala	15th September	Werner Petroschke (D)	Mackerel
103	Courtmacsherry	9th August	L. A. Achterbergh (NL)	Mackerel
102	Courtmacsherry	23rd June	Edgar Krahn (D)	Mackerel
101 6	Kinsale	30th July	F. S. Wright (GB)	Mackerel
100 5	Kinsale	1st August	C. Plomp (NL)	Mackerel
100	Courtmacsherry	23rd June	W. Tough (GB)	Mackerel

TOPE

Record, 60 lbs. 12 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 40 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
52 2	Greystones	1st August	E. A. Richards	Mackerel
17 8	Kenmare	17th July	M. J. O'Connor	Mackerel Strip
13	Greystones	28th July	Michael Hyland	Mackerel
13	Killmore Quay	7th August	Larry Smith	Mackerel
13	Greystones	15th June	Martin King	Mackerel

FURBOT

Record, 26 lbs. 8 ozs.		Specimen Weight, 18 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
22	Belmullet	20th August	Robert Seaman	Mackerel Strip
19 6	Cobh	11th September	Eamonn Lynch	Mackerel Strip
18 1	Cork Harbour	26th May	Miss Tony Boin (NL)	Mackerel fillet

WHITING

Record, 4 lbs. 8½ ozs.		Specimen Weight, 3 lbs.		
WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
4	Kinsale	27th July '76	L. Van Ylerden (B)	Mackerel Strip
3 15	Kinsale	15th August	Rudi Chitty	Mackerel Baited Feathers
3 8	Kinsale	6th July '76	R. Hollins (GB)	Mackerel Strip
3 8	Cushendall, Co. Antrim	21st September	Eric McMaster	Mackerel
3 4	Courtmacsherry	8th August	A. van Gils (NL)	Mackerel Strip
3 2½	Belmullet	11th September	Earl Catherwood	Mackerel Strip
3 1	Courtmacsherry	15th August	A. M. Neve (NL)	Mackerel Strip

CUCKOO WRASSE

Record, 1 lb. 11½ ozs.

Specimen Weight, 1½ lbs.

WEIGHT lb. oz.	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1 11	Causeway Coast	21st August	Ray Allen	Mackerel
1 8½	Sneem, Co. Kerry	6th September	J. A. TH Hoek (NL)	Mackerel
1 6	Causeway Coast	18th September	George Martin	Ragworm
1 6	Dingle	13th September	J. D. Bing	Mackerel Strip
1 6	Causeway Coast	19th August '76	Thomas Marshall	Mackerel
1 5	Larne	30th July	William Emerson	Mackerel Strip
1 5	Causeway Coast	15th August	G. Martin	Ragworm
1 5	Larne	11th September	Samuel Burns	Ragworm
1 4½	Causeway Coast	21st August	Chris Martain	Mackerel
1 4½	Causeway Coast	21st August	J. M. Montgomery	Lugworm
1 4½	Causeway Coast	21st August	Ivan Swales	Lugworm
1 4	Belmullet	29th January	Norman Dunlop	Mackerel Feathers

NEW RECORDS

Five new Irish Records were established during 1977.

- (1) **BASS**, 17 lbs. 1½ ozs. caught by Malcolm Tucker, 4 Rede Wood Road, Barming, Maidstone, Kent, England, at Whiting Bay, Ardmore, Co. Waterford, on 27th April, 1977. This fish exceeds the previous record by 1½ ozs.
- (2) **LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH**, 3 lbs. 12½ ozs., caught by Martin Cassidy, Ballynarrig, Limavaddy, Co. Londonderry, off Tory Island, Co. Donegal, on 23rd July, 1977.
- (3) **SPUR DOGFISH**, 18 lbs. 12 ozs., caught by John Murnane, 16 Bishop Lucy Place, Bantry, Co. Cork, in Bantry Bay, Co. Cork, on 10th September, 1977. This fish exceeds the previous record by 2 lbs. 8 ozs.
- (4) **PAINTED RAY**, 13 lbs., caught by Stanley Hosking, 18 Codiford Crescent, Camborne, Cornwall, England, at Brandon Bay, Dingle Peninsula, Co. Kerry, on 28th September, 1977. This fish exceeds the previous record by ¾ ozs.
- (5) **UNDULATE RAY**, 18 lbs., caught by Miss Ann-Mari Liedেকে, Brondstrup Vej 3, Brondstrup, 8500 Grenaa, Denmark, in Tralee Bay at Fenit, Co. Kerry, on 11th June, 1977. This fish exceeds the previous record by 14 ozs.

FISH OF A LIFETIME AWARD

As no specimen fish below the Record weight taken during 1977 measured up to the Committee's criteria, it has been decided not to make this award for 1977.

TEN PIN AWARD WINNERS

The following qualified in 1977 for the special award made to anglers who have ten or more specimen fish :-

Michael Cowming, 4 O'Connell Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
David Denham, 174 Valence Circus, Dagenham, Essex, England.
David Gray, 190 Clonkeen Crescent, Kill-o-the-Grange, Co. Dublin.
Cbnor Healy, 6 Brookfield Lawn, The Lough, Cork.
Rex Smith, 90 Mansfield Road, Clipstone, Nr. Mansfield, Notts., England.

SPECIAL AWARD FOR JUVENILES

The special award donated by Dr. A. E. J. Went for the best specimen taken by a juvenile, who has not reached his or her fourteenth birthday on 1st January, 1978, was won by Daniel Tiernan, Cloneygawney, Newtown, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, for a freshwater Eel of 4 lbs. 4½ ozs. taken in Lough Derg on the River Shannon on May 8th, 1977.

NEW AWARD

The Committee has decided to recognise the angling prowess of those anglers who have had authenticated claims for specimens of ten separate species of fish. However, no angler qualified for this award during 1977.

NEW CATEGORY

For the 1977 season onwards, the Committee has decided to add **Electric Ray** (*Torpedo nobiliana* Bonaparte) to the list of eligible species. The specimen weight has been provisionally fixed at 20 lbs.

METRIFICATION

As and from 1978 the schedule of specimen weights on the Specimen Fish Claim Form will give the weight in lbs. and ozs. as heretofore and also in kilos and grammes. Claims will be accepted under either system until we eventually go metric altogether.

COMMON SKATE

In the interest of conservation of the species, the Committee during 1976 decided to remove the Common Skate (*Raja batis*) from the list of eligible fishes for three years, i.e., 1977/79, and not to consider any claims whatsoever except a possible new record (i.e., a fish weighing in excess of 221 lbs.) during the three year period. The Committee's decision has on the whole been very well accepted by anglers and it is gratifying to know that so many good skate were returned unharmed to the water during the season. The Committee will keep the situation under review until the end of 1979.

"SETTING UP" CLASSES

The Committee would like to get together a national collection of exceptionally big fish, and so, in the case of fish of or above the weights listed below, if the angler so wishes, the Committee will accept the fish for setting up as part of such national collection. Where a fish of marketable species is accepted by the Committee for setting up, the market value of the fish will be paid to the donor, if requested. Freight charges will also be paid by the Committee.

The following is a list of species (with minimum weights) which the Committee would like to receive for "setting up": -

COD (40 lbs.); CONGER (70 lbs.); JOHN DORY (7 lbs.); GREY MULLET (8 lbs.); POLLACK (16 lbs.); POUTING (4 lbs.); RED SEA BREAM (7 lbs.); SHAD ALLIS (5 lbs.); SHAD TWAITE (3 lbs.); PORBEAGLE SHARK (300 lbs.); MAKO SHARK (200 lbs.); TOPE (60 lbs.); WHITING (4½ lbs.); BALLAN WRASSE (9 lbs.); CUCKOO WRASSE (1½ lbs.).

DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMEN AWARDS

The number of specimen fish taken by visiting anglers in recent years may be of interest for purposes of comparison. The details are listed below for 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977.

	IRELAND	BRITAIN	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	BELGIUM	FRANCE
1972	169	126	29	23	7	2
1973	235	91	23	40	9	5
1974	170	117	16	36	6	9
1975	204	132	46	27	3	6
1976	214	123	40	36	2	5
1977	272	135	35	47	4	4

REJECTED CLAIMS

As in every year since its inception, the Committee with considerable regret, has had to reject a number of claims because of incomplete or inadequate documentation.

These included instances where fish were weighed on balances which were not, or could not, be checked for accuracy. Some photographs submitted as evidence of identity of species of fish were inadequate for identification purposes because they were out of focus, or obscured by spectators or were taken at such an angle that the important diagnostic features could not be certified. Some claims were also rejected because the actual fish, or its scales (where required under the rules) were not sent to the Committee's Biologists for identification, or if the fish was sent, it was in such a state of advanced decomposition as to render positive identification impossible. In some cases the fish were not delivered at all but were destroyed by the Postal Authorities.

Fish must not be sent before Bank Holidays or week-ends. If they cannot reach the Committee before Friday afternoon, then they should be kept in cold storage until Monday. Fish must not be wrapped in aluminium foil or polythene bags, as this hastens decomposition. They should first be wrapped in greaseproof paper and then in newspaper and brown paper. Please also attach a label to each fish giving the captor's name and address, date and place of capture and the weight of the fish.

Where photographs are requested as proof of identification, it is essential that these be sharp, clear and close-up, showing the entire fish with its fins and other features easily seen. They must not be foreshortened or obscured by shadows or bystanders. (See Rules on Claim Form).

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

IN IRELAND

The Annual Presentation of Awards to anglers whose claims were accepted during 1976 was made at the Burlington Hotel, Dublin. The presentation for the 1977 awards will take place at the Burlington Hotel, Dublin, on Saturday, 11th February, 1978, at 3 p.m. All Irish anglers who are due awards are cordially invited to attend.

ABROAD

Presentations were held for British anglers who were due awards for 1976 in London and Manchester. It is hoped that similar presentations will be held early in 1978 and award winners will receive invitations.

Presentations were also held in Rotterdam for anglers from the Netherlands and in Dusseldorf for anglers from West Germany during 1977 and it is hoped to make presentations to Continental anglers at suitable centres during 1978.

Our grateful thanks are due to Bord Fáilte Éireann (Irish Tourist Board) for making these presentations possible and to Aer Lingus (Irish Airlines) for their assistance during the year.

ACCOUNTS

A statement of the Committee's accounts for the calendar year 1976 is given in this Report. The 1977 accounts will be audited early in 1978 and will be published in the next Report.

HON. AUDITOR'S REPORT

We wish to draw the attention of the benefactors of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee to the current financial situation. The consistent and much appreciated financial support which has been provided by Bord Fáilte, the Inland Fisheries Trust, Angling Clubs, Angling Federations and individual members of the Public in particular, has allowed the I.S.F.C. to remain solvent over a long period of years. So much so that the Committee has not had to curtail any of its activities, indeed it has been able to increase them notably by improving angling facilities for Irish anglers and by promoting the steady increase of sea fish and coarse fish anglers from abroad. Indeed, it can be said that for an expenditure of £1466.82 in 1976, the return in terms of National Income must be one of the highest in the country. However, rising costs and the rate of inflation are militating seriously against the expansion of the work of the I.S.F.C. The organisation cannot remain static. We are grateful to the public for its loyal support.

Angling Clubs, Federations and individual donors between them constituted 16% of our total income in 1976, a truly magnificent effort, and one which we could only expect would rise to about 20% of our total income. However, the main financial support for the work of the I.S.F.C. should derive from those Irish authorities who benefit most from the fishing activities of coarse fish, salmon, trout and sea anglers. We refer to Hotels, Fishing Tackle shops, Air Lines and Banks. The continued present support of Bord Fáilte and the Inland Fisheries Trust is much appreciated and vital to the existence of the I.S.F.C., but we appeal to those other groups mentioned above to consider the benefits which they derive from the activities of the Committee and earnestly ask them to make an annual donation to the I.S.F.C., so that the work of this Committee will be able to continue and expand in the interests of promoters and public alike.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Fish taken in the Republic of Ireland and forwarded for identification purposes should be sent to the National Fisheries Centre, Department of Fisheries, Abbotstown, Castleknock, Co. Dublin.

Fish taken in Northern Ireland should be sent to Fisheries Laboratory, The Cutts, Coleraine (phone 4521), indicating that the fish has been sent for identification on behalf of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee.

A label must be attached to each fish giving the captor's name and address, date and place of capture and the weight of the fish.

Please note that since 1970 the Committee's address has been Balnagowan House, Mobhi Boreen, Mobhi Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. (phone 379206).

All correspondence should be sent to the above address.

The Irish Specimen Fish Committee is a voluntary body representative of all angling interests in Ireland. It depends for funds on the subscriptions of well-wishers and the Committee wishes to convey its sincere thanks to those who have already subscribed, namely:-

Further subscriptions will be gratefully received from any society or individual desirous of helping the Committee in its work.

A. E. J. WENT, Chairman.
D. BRENNAN, Hon. Secretary.
1st January, 1978.

	19/6	19/5
Printing	£570.91	£274.36
Medallions etc.	45.47	
Travel and presentations	598.45	
Refund to I.R.T.	150.00	300.00
Postage	58.38	
Miscellaneous	35.00	25.00
Bank Charges	8.61	75.00
	<hr/>	
		50.00
		Aer Lingus
		Angling Clubs
		Individual donations
		Miscellaneous
		£1287.43
		<hr/>
		Less
		Incoming balance 1.1.77
		£195.50
		<hr/>
		£557.11

We have examined all dockets, record books lodgement and check books and certify that the **accounts** correct.

Hon. Auditors:	F. A. Gibson	C. P. O'Toole	18.11.77
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WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

Irish Specimen Fish Committee

The Committee is a voluntary body and it depends for funds on the subscriptions of well-wishers. The Banker's Order is for the convenience of those who wish to participate in our work. If you cannot assist up financially please help us by making anglers aware of the work we are doing and by recording all specimen and record fish taken by fair angling.

BANKER'S ORDER

To:

On January 1st each year, please debit my account with the sum of £
being my annual subscription to the Irish Specimen Fish Committee, c/o Allied Irish Banks Ltd.,
Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.

SIGNED

DATE

This form may be used by those who wish to pay their subscription through their Bank.

RARE, SCARCE OR LOCAL SPECIES CAUGHT IN IRISH WATERS IN 1977

by D. Minchin and C. E. O'Riordan

The following fish, other than those referred to in this report have been taken in Irish waters up to 22nd October, 1977, and a full list of the fishes taken in 1977 will be published later in the *Irish Naturalists Journal*. Scientific names used below are those given in the third edition of the *List of Irish Fishes* by A. E. J. Went and M. Kennedy, published in 1976 by the National Museum, Dublin.

SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LOCALITY
Beryx	<i>Beryx splendens</i> Lowe	Dingle
Torsk	<i>Brosme brosme</i> (Ascanius)	Achill, Clifden
Red Mullet	<i>Mullus surmulletus</i> L.	Courtown, St. Finians Bay and Dingle Bay (2)
Pelamid	<i>Sarda sarda</i> (Bloch)	Dingle
Cat (Wolf) Fish	<i>Gobius (Macrogobius) cruentatus</i>	(3 specimens)
Black Fish	<i>Anarhichas lupus</i> L.	Howth Head
Streaked Gurnard	<i>Centrolophus niger</i> (Gmelin)	Dingle
Trigger Fish	<i>Trigloporus lastoviza</i> Bonnaterre	Dingle
	<i>Balistes carolinensis</i> (Gmelin)	Dingle

SPECIMEN FLATFISH AND SOME GURNARDS TAKEN IN IRISH WATERS (1956 - 1976)

by A. E. J. Went

The claim forms and annual reports of the Committee together provide a considerable body of information on notable fish taken by fair angling in Irish waters, and it is part of the Committee's policy to provide anglers with as much information as possible on their catches. Reports have already been published as follows:-

- Report for 1971, "Some notes on specimen brown trout from Irish waters";
- Report for 1972, "Skates and rays" and "Rudd";
- Report for 1973, "Ireland's record and specimen sea trout";
- Report for 1974, "Notes on some specimen cartilaginous fishes" (dealing with the dogfishes, tope, monkfish and blue-sharks);
- Report for 1975, "Specimen coarse fish from Irish waters" (dealing with bream, carp, dace, eels, perch, pike, roach, rudd, rudd/bream hybrids and tench) and
- Report for 1976, "Specimen skates and rays taken in Irish waters (1956-1975)".

The present paper deals with the flat fish (dab, flounder, halibut, plaice, sole and turbot) and the gurnards. For convenience the various centres have been arranged in geographical order starting at Dublin, then down the east coast, westwards along the south coast, northwards up the west coast and hence along the north coast to Dublin.

THE FLATFISH

The record fish at the time of writing this report were as follows:-

Species	Weight lb. oz.	Date of capture	Locality	Captor
Dab	1 12½ (0.81kg)	10 September 1963	Kinsale	I. V. Kerr
Flounder	4 3 (1.90kg)	5 August 1963	Killala	J. L. McMonagle
Halibut	156 (70.8kg)	23 July 1972	Belmullet	F. Brogan
Plaice	7 2½ (3.25kg)	27 May 1973	Youghal	C. Pratt
Sole	3 10 (1.65kg)	19 October 1970	Waterford harbour	R. W. Nicholson
Turbot	26 8 (12.0kg)	1915	Valentia	J. F. Elridge

One of these records were made before the Committee was established in 1955 but the fish in question was well authenticated.

DAB

Only eleven specimen dabs have been authenticated so far, with a specimen weight at 1½ lb. They were captured three in Belfast Lough, two at Dingle, and one each at Arklow, Youghal, Cork Harbour, Kinsale, Blacksod Bay and the Causeway Coast.

FLOUNDER

A total of 130 specimen flounders were recorded from 1961 to 1976, with the specimen weight fixed at 2 pounds (0.91kg) from 1961 to 1966, inclusive and 2½ pounds (1.14kg) thereafter. Details of the heaviest fish of the year, its place of capture and the annual number of specimens are given in Table 1. The record at 4 lb. 3 oz. has persisted since 1963.

TABLE 1. The annual maximum weight of specimen flounders, their places of capture and the annual number of specimens.

Year	Maximum Weight lb. oz.	Number of Specimens	Place of Capture of Heaviest Fish
1961	2 13	2	Dingle
1963	4 3	9	Killala
1964	2 10½	8	Clonakilty
1965	3 5	14	Malahide
1966	3 3½	16	Rosscarbery
1967	3 7	7	Rosscarbery
1968	2 15½	4	Clonakilty
1969	3 10	5	Ballinaskelligs
1970	3 12	3	Ballinaskelligs
1971	3 4	3	Greystones
1972	2 15	6	Causeway Coast
1973	3 2	4	Dun Laoghaire
1974	3 6	10	Clonakilty
1975	3 11½	14	Kilmore Quay
1976	3 7	25	Greystones
Total	—	130	—

Details of the number of specimens of 2½ pounds and upwards taken in the various parts of the coast are given in Table 2. Because of the number of centres involved some of the lesser areas for specimen flounders have been grouped together. Over the period 1961 to 1966 Dungarvan, Clonakilty and Rosscarbery were responsible for a high proportion of the specimen flounders. Since the change in specimen weight to 2½ pounds, however, Dungarvan has been pre-eminent with 20 specimens compared with the second contender, Clonakilty with 11.

TABLE 2. The heaviest specimen flounder and the number of specimens weighing 2½ pounds and upwards for the various localities.

Locality	Number of specimens	
Boyne to Greystones	7	3 5
Wexford Coast	8	3 11½
Dungarvan, Dunmore East and Ardmore	23	3 6½
Cork Harbour and Kinsale	2	2 13
Clonakilty	11	3 6
Rosscarbery Timoleague and Owenahincha	10	3 7
Kerry Coast	20	3 12
Killala Bay	1	4 3
Causeway coast and Larne	9	3 0
Total	91	

The size distribution of the specimen fish in half pound groups is shown in Fig. 1 for two periods, up to and including 1966 and from 1967 onwards. Assuming that the proportion of fish in the 2 pound group and the larger groups remained the same, raising of the specimen weight to 2½ pounds would have resulted in a loss of 204 fish weighing from 2 pounds up to 2½ pounds or about 20 fish a year.

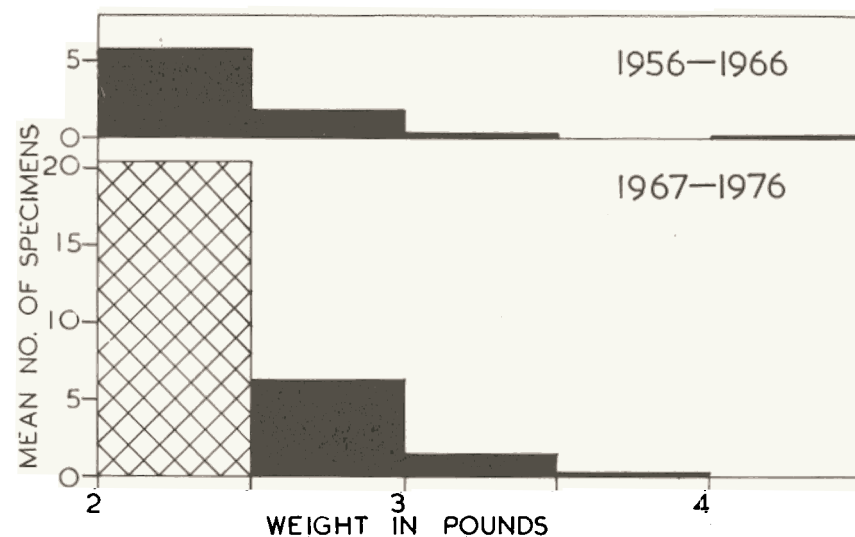


Fig. 1. Mean number of specimen flounders per year in half pound groups for the periods 1956/66 and 1967/1976.

The cross hatched areas indicate calculated reductions in numbers as a result of raising the specimen weight in 1967.

HALIBUT

The halibut was never a common fish in Irish waters and few fish are taken even by commercial methods. That the species was always scarce is suggested by the list of duties levied up to 1609 by the O'Driscoll on all ships fishing from the Fastnet, west of Cape Clear to Toe Head, by which if a boat took a halibut it was to be given "to the lord for a ball of butter" and if concealed for 24 hours to "forfeit forty shillings to the Lord". Other records relating to West Cork suggest the same conclusion.

TABLE 3. The annual maximum weight of specimen plaice, their places of capture and annual number of specimens.

Year	Maximum Weight lb. oz.	Number of Specimens	Place of Capture of Heaviest Fish
1956	5 1	1	Belfast Lough
1957	5 8	1	Kinsale
1959	4 1	1	Greystones
1961	4 4	3	Greystones
1962	5 14	3	Cushendall
1963	5 3	2	Dun Laoghaire
1964	7 0	6	Portrush
1965	5 6	7	Belfast Lough
1966	5 15½	9	Causeway Coast
1967	5 1½	3	Bangor Bay
1968	4 10	5	Dun Laoghaire
1969	4 13	2	Causeway Coast
1970	5 6	1	Ballycotton
1971	4 9	2	Greystones
1972	4 3	1	Dun Laoghaire
1973	7 2½	3	Youghal
1974	4 3	2	Cork Harbour
1975	5 11½	9	Cork Harbour
1976	4 1	1	Killiney
Total	—	62	

Since the Committee was established only three specimen halibut have been recorded, one, the present record, of 156 pounds from Belmullet and single fish weighing 80½ and 64 pounds from Valentia and Kinsale, respectively. Up to 1973 Ireland's rod caught halibut weighed 152½ pounds (69.3kg) and it was taken at Valentia in 1926 by E. C. Henning.

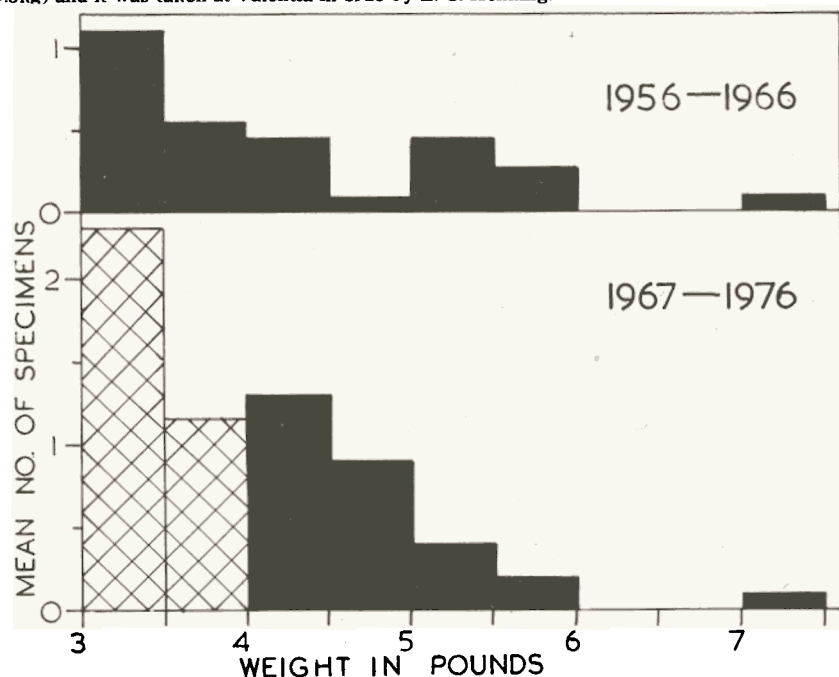


Fig. 2. Mean number of specimen plaice per year in half pound groups for the periods 1956/66 and 1967/76.

The cross hatched areas indicate reductions in numbers as a result of raising the specimen weight in 1967.

PLAICE

A total of 62 specimen plaice were recorded since 1956 and the details of the annual heaviest fish, its place of capture and the annual number of specimens are given in Table 3. From 1956 to 1966, inclusive, the specimen weight was 3 pounds (1.36kg) and thereafter 4 pounds (1.82kg). The size distribution in ½ pound groups of the specimen plaice taken in the two periods are shown in Fig. 2. Assuming the size distribution of the exploited stock remain constant then the loss in number of specimens by the change in the specimen weight would be as shown in Fig. 2; that is to say 2.32 and 1.16 specimens per annum for the 3 pound group and 3½ pound groups, respectively or a total of about 35 specimens. The number of specimens and the heaviest place taken in the various localities are shown in Table 4 for those fish over the present (4 pound) specimen weight.

TURBOT

A total of 137 specimen turbot were recorded since 1956 with a specimen of 15 pounds (6.8kg) up to 1965, 20 pounds (9.1kg) from 1966 to 1969, inclusive and 18 pounds (8.2kg) thereafter. The details of the annual heaviest fish, its place of capture and the annual number of specimens are given in Table 5. The size distribution in two-pound groups are indicated in Fig. 3. The increase in specimen weight to 20 pounds had a drastic effect on the number of specimen turbot from 1967 onwards, which a reduction to 18 pounds in 1971 made very little difference. The number of specimens and the

heaviest turbot taken in the various centres are shown in Table 6 for all the specimen fish of 18 pounds and upwards. Kinsale and Cork Harbours between them accounted for 56 out of a total of 68 specimens of 18 pounds and upwards in weight. In fact, all but 5 such specimens were from the south coast of Ireland.

TABLE 4. The heaviest specimen plaice and the number of specimens weighing 4 pounds and upwards at the various centres.

Locality	Number of specimens	
Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey and Killiney	9	5 3
Greystones	8	5 2½
Hook Head	1	4 0
Youghal	2	7 2½
Ballycotton	1	5 6
Cork Harbour	6	5 11½
Kinsale	1	5 8
Fenit	1	4 8
Causeway Coast and Portrush	7	7 0
Dushendall	1	5 14
Belfast Lough, Bangor Bay and Island Magee	7	5 6
Total	44	

TABLE 5. The annual maximum weight of specimen turbot, their places of capture and the annual number of specimens.

Year	Maximum Weight lb. oz.	Number of Specimens	Place of Capture of Heaviest Fish
1955	23 8	1	Kinsale
1960	21 14	3	Kinsale
1961	19 3½	5	Kinsale
1962	20 2	19	Kinsale
1963	22 8	36	Kinsale
1964	23 1	15	Cork Harbour
1965	23 10	37	Kinsale
1967	25 0	2	Cork Harbour
1968	22 8	2	Kinsale
1969	25 0	3	Killybegs
1970	20 12	1	Kinsale
1971	25 8	5	Cork Harbour
1972	22 0	2	Cork Harbour
1973	18 5½	1	Killala
1974	20 12	2	Cork Harbour
1975	18 1½	1	Causeway Coast
1976	22 12	2	Cork Harbour
Total	-	137	

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

In the case of flounder and plaice after an increase in the specimen weight there was a rise in the average number of specimens recorded each year. This may have been due to the survival of good year classes but more likely because there has been an improved response to the Committee's regular appeals for information on notable fish taken by fair angling in Irish waters.

THE GURNARDS

Three species of gurnards are on the list for which claims would be entertained by the Committee. Because many anglers find difficulty in distinguishing between the various gurnards the Committee requires that with any claim for a specimen gurnard the actual fish must be sent for identification. The three species are:-

- Tub gurnard, (*Trigla lucerna*);
- Grey gurnard, (*Eutrigla gurnardus*) and
- Red gurnard, (*Aspitrigla cuculus*)

The present records are:-

Species	Weight lb. oz.	Date of Capture	Locality	Captor
Tub Gurnard	12 3½ (5.55kg)	8/8/1973	Achill	R. J. Seamen
Grey Gurnard	3 1 (1.39kg)	21/9/1967	Rosslare	B. Walsh
Red Gurnard	3 9½ (1.63kg)	17/7/1968	Belmullet	J. Prescott

For many years up to the year 1958 red gurnards were thought to be rather scarce in Irish waters but it became obvious that the species was less scarce than believed when relatively large numbers were taken on rod and line, particularly in the north west of Ireland.

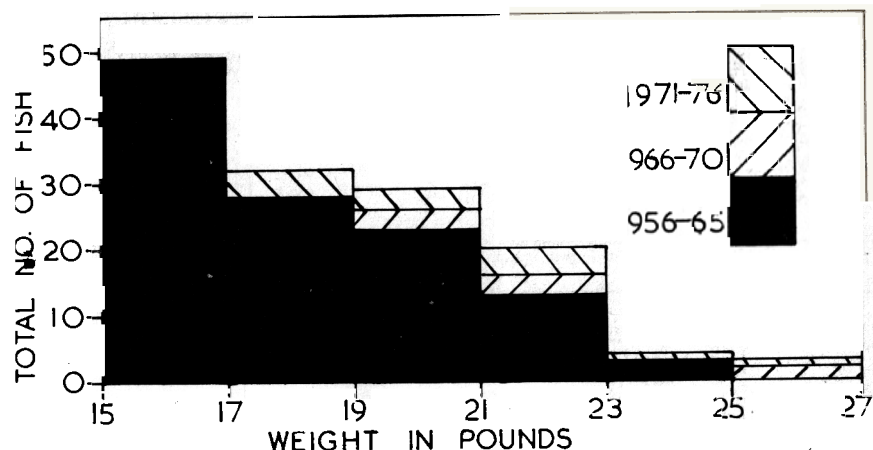


Fig. 3. The total number of specimen turbot taken in the period 1956/1976.

TABLE 6. The heaviest specimen turbot and the number of specimens of 18 pounds and upwards for the various centres.

Locality	Number of Specimens	Heaviest Fish lb. oz.
Kilmore Quay	2	18 8
Dungarvan	2	21 12
Youghal	1	21 0
Cork Harbour	20	25 8
Kinsale	36	23 10
Kenmare Bay	1	18 4
Dingle	1	19 0
Broadhaven	1	19 6
Killala	1	18 5½
Killybegs	1	25 0
Causeway Coast	2	19 0
Total	68	-

TUB GURNARD

A total of 63 specimen tub gurnards weighing 5 pounds and upwards were recorded from 1957 to 1976. Details of the heaviest fish each year, its place of capture and the annual number of specimens are given in Table 7. There was a great range in the weight of the heaviest fish over the years. Up to 1965 the heaviest fish was 6 lb. 10½ oz. or less, whereas afterwards only in one year (1974) did the weight fall below 7 pounds. This rise in the heaviest fish since 1965 would suggest the existence of one or more strong year classes in more recent years. The size distribution of specimen fish in one pound groups was as follows:-

No.	Weight group (lb.)								Total
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	22	22	9	6	—	3	—	1	63

Of the total of 63 specimens accepted 46 came from the Mayo area (Achill, Broadhaven and Killala Bay). (Table 8).

TABLE 7. The annual maximum weight of specimen tub gurnards, their places of capture and the annual number of specimens.

Year	Maximum Weight lb. oz.	Number of Specimens	Place of Capture of Heaviest Fish
1957	5 1	1	Achill
1960	6 8½	1	Achill
1961	5 1	1	Dingle
1962	5 12	1	Dingle
1964	6 10½	2	Achill
1965	6 3	2	Killala
1966	7 13	3	Portnoo
1967	8 4	5	Achill
1968	7 2½	5	Belfast
1969	10 2½	9	Belmullet
1970	10 8	4	Belmullet
1971	7 5	4	Belmullet
1972	8 0	3	Killala
1973	12 3½	5	Achill
1974	6 12	5	Killala
1975	8 8	3	Killala
1976	8 12	9	Enniscrone
Total	-	63	-

TABLE 8. The heaviest tub gurnard and the number of specimens for the various localities.

Locality	Number of Specimens	Heaviest Fish lb. oz.
Dalkey	1	
Rosslare	1	
Cork Harbour	2	
Kinsale	1	
Kerry Coast	4	
Achill	11	
Broadhaven	10	
Killala Bay, including Enniscrone	25	
Donegal Coast	5	
Causeway Coast and Portrush	2	
Belfast Lough	1	
Total	63	

GREY GURNARD

A total of 59 specimen grey gurnards were recorded from 1958 onwards. Details of the heaviest each year, its place of capture and the annual number of specimens are given in Table 9. The maximum weights have shown marked variations from year to year. The size distribution of the specimens is as follows:-

No.	Weight Group (lb.)				Total
	1½	2	2½	3	
	51	6	1	1	59

Very few fish (13.6%) weighed 2 lb. and upwards.

The number of specimens and heaviest fish at the various localities are given in Table 10. The

Causeway Coast was responsible for 27 (45.8%), out of the total of 59 specimens recorded, ten other specimens coming from various places along the Kerry Coast.

TABLE 9. The annual maximum weight of specimen grey gurnard, their places of capture and the annual number of specimens.

Year	Maximum Weight lb. oz.	Number of Specimens	Place of Capture of Heaviest Fish
1958	1 13	1	Moville
1959	1 9½	1	Dingle
1963	2 0	3	Belfast Lough
1964	2 1½	1	Valentia
1965	1 13½	1	Causeway Coast
1966	1 13	3	Muck Island (Antrim)
1967	3 1	6	Rosslare
1968	2 6	4	Causeway Coast
1969	1 14	6	Malinmore
1970	1 11½	5	Causeway Coast
1971	1 15½	7	Valentia
1972	2 0½	5	Achill
1973	2 8	3	Youghall
1974	1 10	1	Achill
1975	1 9½	3	Causeway Coast
1976	2 4	6	Ballinaskelligs
Total	—	59	—

TABLE 10. The heaviest grey gurnard, and the number of specimens for the various localities.

Locality	Number of Specimens	Heaviest Fish lb. oz.
Greystones	3	
Rosslare	1	
Dunmore East	1	
Dungarvan	2	
Youghal	1	
Kinsale	2	
Kerry Coast	10	
Mayo Coast	5	
Donegal Coast	4	
Causeway Coast and Muck Island	28	
Belfast Lough	2	
Total	59	

RED GURNARD

When the red gurnard was added to the list of species for which claims would be considered the specimen weight was fixed at 1½ lb. but in 1959 no less than 102 red gurnards were taken, mainly in the Moville area, weighing from 1½ lb. to 2 lb. It was decided, therefore, that from 1960 the specimen weight should be 2 lb. at which it remains at present. A total of 159 red gurnards of 2 lb. at which it remains at present. A total of 159 red gurnards of 2 lb. and upwards have been recorded since 1958, the annual maximum weights, their places of capture and the number of specimens being recorded in Table 11. The size distribution of the specimen fish is as follows:—

No.	Weight group (lb.)							Total
	2	2½	2½	2½	3	3½	3½	
	102	33	17	5	—	1	1	159

The number of specimens and heaviest fish at the various localities are given in Table 12. Three centres Moville, Dingle and the Causeway Coast accounted for 136 specimens or 85.5% of the total, with Moville leading with 60 specimens (38%).

TABLE 11. The annual maximum weight of specimen red gurnards, weighing 2 pounds and upwards, their places of capture and the annual number of specimens.

Year	Maximum Weight lb. oz.	Number of Specimens	Place of Capture of Heaviest Fish
1958	2 3	2	Moville
1959	2 4	11	Moville
1960	2 10½	5	Dingle
1961	2 10½	5	Moville
1962	2 11½	8	Moville
1963	2 11½	4	Killybegs
1964	2 10	5	Moville
1965	2 7½	5	Achill
1966	2 9½	9	Moville
1967	2 12½	6	Dingle
1968	3 9½	17	Belmullet
1969	3 4	17	Loop Head
1970	2 7	10	Causeway Coast
1971	2 13½	17	Dingle
1972	2 7	12	Dingle
1973	2 6½	3	Belfast Lough
1974	2 4½	3	Belmullet
1975	2 10½	13	Dingle
1976	2 5½	7	Westport
Total	—	159	

TABLE 12. The heaviest red gurnard and the number of specimens for the various localities.

Locality	Number of Specimens	Heaviest Fish lb. oz.
Dungarvan	1	
Dingle and elsewhere on Kerry Coast	46	
Loop Head	1	
Mayo Coast	10	
Enniscrone	1	
Moville	60	
Other Donegal Centres	6	
Causeway Coast	32	
Carnlough	1	
Belfast Lough	1	
Total	159	

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

Few specimen gurnards of the three species under review were taken on the east or south coasts, the main regions of capture being as follows:—

Species	Kerry Coast	Mayo Coast	Donegal Coast	Causeway Coast	All Localities
Tub	40	46	5	2	63
Grey	10	5	4	28	59
Red	46	10	66	32	159

The focus for tub gurnard was, therefore, the Mayo area (Killala Bay, Achill and Broadhaven) and for the grey gurnard the Causeway Coast, with a much less important area off the Kerry coast. Specimen red gurnards are scattered much more widely, the main areas being the Donegal coast (largely the Foyle or Moville area), the Kerry coast and the Causeway Coast in that order of importance.

[IRISH RECORD FISH Freshwater Species

SPECIES	WEIGHT lb. oz.	DATE OF CAPTURE	PLACE OF CAPTURE	CAPTOR
Salmon	57 0	1874	River Suir	M. Maher
Sea Trout	14 3	15.5.1973	Dooagh Beach, Achill	Dr. Eoin Bresnihan
Brown Trout (River)	20 0	22.2.1957	R. Shannon, Corbally	Major Hugh Place
Brown Trout (Lake)	26 2	15.7.1894	Lough Ennell	Wm. Meares
Bream	11 12	1882	River Blackwater (Monaghan)	A Pike
Carp	18 12	6.6.1958	Abbey Lake	John Roberts
Dace	1 2	8.8.1966	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	John T. Henry
Perch	5 8	1946	Lough Erne	S. Drum
Pike (River)	42 0	22.3.1964	River Barrow	M. Watkins
Pike (Lake)	38 2	25.2.1973	Lough Corrib	Brendan Hardiman
Roach	2 13½	11.8.1970	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	Lawrie Robinson
Rudd	3 1	27.6.1959	Kilglass Lake	A. E. Biddlecombe
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	5 13½	12.4.1975	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	P. J. Dighton
Tench	7 13½	25.5.1971	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	Raymond Webb
River Eel	5 15	25.9.1968	R. Shannon, Clondra	E. Hawksworth

MARINE SPECIES

SPECIES	WEIGHT lb. oz.	DATE OF CAPTURE	PLACE OF CAPTURE	CAPTOR
Angler Fish	71 8	5.7.1964	Cork Harbour	MI. Fitzgerald
Bass	17 1½	27.4.1977	Whiting Bay, Ardmore	Malcolm Tucker
Black Sole	3 10	19.10.1970	Woodstown Strand, Waterford	R. W. Nicholson
Coalfish	24 7	26.8.1967	Kinsale	J. E. Hornibrook
Cod	42 0	1921	Ballycotton	I. L. Stewart
Conger	72 0	June 1914	Valentia	J. Green
Dab	1 12½	10.9.1963	Kinsale	Ivan Kerr
Spur Dogfish	18 12	10.9.1977	Bantry	John Murnane
Greater Spotted Dogfish	21 4	13.9.1975	Malin, Co. Donegal	Drew Alexander
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	3 12½	23.7.77	Tory Island	Martin Cassidy
Flounder	4 3	5.8.1963	Killala Bay	J. L. McMonagle
Garfish	3 10½	16.9.1967	Kinsale	Evan Bazzard
Tub Gurnard	12 3½	8.8.1973	Bullsmouth, Achill	Robert Seaman
Grey Gurnard	3 1	21.9.1967	Rosslare Bay	Brendan Walsh
Red Gurnard	3 9½	17.7.1968	Belmullet	James Prescott
Haddock	10 13½	15.7.1964	Kinsale	F. A. E. Bull
Hake	25 5½	28.4.1962	Belfast Lough	H. W. Steele
Halibut	156	23.7.1972	Belmullet	Frank Brogan
Ling	46 8	26.7.1965	Kinsale	A. J. C. Bull
John Dory	7 1	6.9.1970	Tory Island, Donegal	Stanley Morrow
Mackerel	3 8	1.7.1972	Clogherhead Pier, Co. Louth	Roger Ryan
Monkfish	69 0	1.7.1958	Clew Bay, Westport	Michael Fuchs
Grey Mullet	7 12	7.9.1975	Brittas Bay,	Colm Quinn
Plaice	7 2½	27.5.1973	Youghal	Cecil Pratt
Pollack	19 3	1904	Ballycotton	J. N. Hearne
Pouting	4 10	1937	Ballycotton	W. G. Pales
Thornback Ray	37 0	28.5.1961	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	M. J. Fitzgerald
Blonde Ray	36 8	9.9.1964	Cork Harbour	D. Minchin
Sting Ray	51 0	8.8.1970	Fenit, Co. Kerry	John White
Cuckoo Ray	5 11	3.8.1975	Causeway Coast	V. Morrison
Undulate Ray	18	11.6.1977	Fenit	Ann-Mari Liedecke
Homelyn Ray	7 7½	17.7.1976	Dunfanaghy, Co. Donegal	John Kerr
Painted Ray	13	28.9.1977	Brandon Bay, Dingle	S. Hosking
Ray's Bream	6	1.9.1975	Courtmacsherry, Cork	W. van der Zee

SPECIES	WEIGHT lb. oz.	DATE OF CAPTURE	PLACE OF CAPTURE	CAPTOR
Red Sea Bream	9 6	24.8.1963	Valentia	P. Maguire
Porbeagle Shark	365	1932	Keem Bay, Achill	Dr. O'Donel Brown
Blue Shark	206	7.10.1959	Achill Head	J. McMonagle
Common Skate	221	1913	Ballycotton	T. Tucker
White Skate	165	7.8.1966	Clew Bay, Westport	Jack Stack
Tope	60 12	12.9.1968	Strangford Lough	Crawford McIvor
Turbot	26 8	1915	Valentia	J. F. Eldridge
Whiting	4 8½	4.8.1969	Kinsale	Eddie Boyle
Ballan Wrasse	7 8½	26.7.64	Killybegs	A. J. King
Cuckoo Wrasse	1 11½	10.10.1976	Causeway Coast	Trevor Best

SCHEDULE (1978)

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS (REVISED)

FRESHWATER FISH	IRISH record lb. oz.	SPECIMEN lb.	WEIGHT kilos
Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	57 0	25	11.339
Sea trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	14 3	6	2.721
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (river)	20 0	5	2.268
Brown trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (Lake)	26 2	10	4.536
Slob trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	—	10	4.536
Bream (<i>Abramis brama</i>)	11 12	7½	3.402
Carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>)	18 12	10	4.536
Dace (<i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i>)	1 2	1	.454
Perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>)	5 8	3	1.361
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (lake)	38 2	30	13.608
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (river)	42 0	20	9.072
Roach (<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>)	2 13½	2½	1.021
Rudd (<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>)	3 1	2½	1.021
Rudd Bream hybrid	5 13½	3	1.361

FRESHWATER FISH	IRISH RECORD lb. oz.	SPECIMEN lb.	WEIGHT kilos
Roach/Bream hybrid	—	3	1.361
Tench (<i>Tinca tinca</i>)	7 13½	6	2.721
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	5 15	3	1.361
SEA FISH			
Angler fish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>)	71 8	40	18.144
Bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>)	17 1½	10	4.536
Black sole (<i>Solea solea</i>)	3 10	2	.907
Brill (<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>)	—	8	3.629
Coalfish (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	24 7	15	6.804
Cod (<i>Gadus morhus</i>)	42 0	25	11.340
Conger (<i>Conger conger</i>)	72 0	40	18.144
Dab (<i>Limanda limanda</i>)	1 12½	1½	.680
Dogfish-Spur (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)	18 0	12	5.443
— Lesser Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus caniculus</i>)	3 12½	3	1.361
— Greater spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i>)	21 4	16	7.257
Flounder (<i>Platichthys flesus</i>)	4 3	2½	1.134
Garfish (<i>Belone belone</i>)	3 10½	2½	1.134
Gurnard - tub (<i>Trigla lucerna</i>)	12 3½	5	2.268
— grey (<i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i>)	3 1	1½	.680
— red (<i>Aspitrigla cucuius</i>)	3 9½	2	.907
Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)	10 13½	7	3.175
Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)	25 5½	10	4.536
Halibut (<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>)	156 0	50	22.680
Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)	—	3	.340
John Dory (<i>Zeus faber</i>)	7 1	4	1.814
Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	46 8	25	11.340
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)	3 8	2½	1.134
Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i>)	—	3	1.361
Monkfish (<i>Squatina squatina</i>)	69 0	50	22.680
Mullet-Grey, thick lipped (<i>Crenimugil labrosus</i>)	7 12	5	2.268
— Red (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)	—	1	.454

SEA FISH	IRISH RECORD		SPECIMEN	WEIGHT
	lb.	oz.	lb.	kilos
Plaice - (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)	7	2½	4	1.814
Pollack (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>)	19	3	12	5.443
Pouting (<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>)	4	10	3	1.361
Ray - Thornback (<i>Raja clavata</i>)	37	0	20	9.072
Blonde (<i>Raja brachyura</i>)	36	8	25	11.340
Cuckoo (<i>Raja naevus</i>)	5	11	4½	2.041
Electric (<i>Torpedo nobiliana</i>)	-	-	20	9.072
Homelyn (<i>Raja montagui</i>)	7	7½	5	2.268
Undulate (<i>Raja undulata</i>)	18	-	14	6.350
Painted (<i>Raja microocellata</i>)	13	-	10	4.536
Sting (<i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i>)	51	-	30	13.608
Ray's Bream (<i>Brama brama</i>)	6	0	5	2.268
Red Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>)	9	6	4½	2.041
Scad (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>)	-	-	2	.907
Shad - Allis (<i>Alosa alosa</i>)	-	-	4	1.814
Twaité (<i>Alosa fallax</i>)	-	-	2½	1.020
Shark - Porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	365	0	150	68.038
Blue (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	206	0	100	45.359
Thresher (<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>)	-	-	120	54.431
Mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>)	-	-	200	90.718
Six-Gilled (<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>)	-	-	100	45.359
Skate - Common (<i>Raja batis</i>)	221	0	suspended	
White (<i>Raja alba</i>)	165	0	120	54.431
Long Nose (<i>Raja oxyrinchus</i>)	-	-	80	36.287
Tope (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>)	60	12	40	18.144
Tunny (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>)	-	-	100	45.359
Turbot (<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>)	26	8	18	8.165
Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)	4	8½	3	1.361
Wrasse Ballan (<i>Labrus bergylta</i>)	7	6	6	2.721
Wrasse Cockoo (<i>Labrus mixtus</i>)	1	11½	1½	.567

Scientific names in accordance with the "List of Irish Fishes (Third edition, 1976) by A. E. J. Went, D.Sc., M.R.I.A. and M. Kennedy, Ph.D. Published by the Stationery Office for the National Museum (1969).