

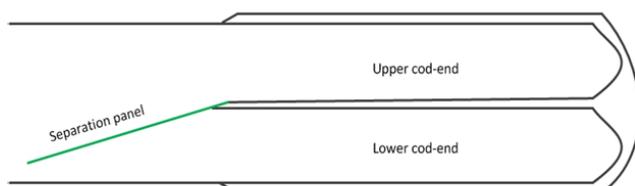
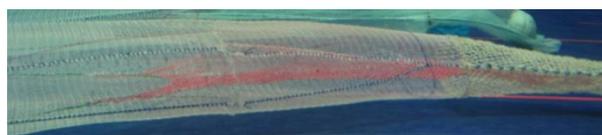
# using a horizontal separation panel to improve selection in a pulse beam trawl

## TARGET SPECIES

marketable sole, plaice, turbot and brill

## AREA, VESSEL

20 catch comparison trials were carried out with 2 x 12m SumWing pulse beam trawl on grounds in North Sea (ICES area IVc) on board the Jan van Toon TX36 (42.4m, 1470kW)



## GEAR MODIFICATION

It is assumed that sole stay at the bottom of the trawl, while other species swim at different heights and can be guided towards an upper cod-end.

Hence, a separation panel was fitted ~15cm above the bottom of the trawl to direct (fish) discards to an upper codend and to direct sole, the target species, to a lower codend.

During the experimental hauls the 80mm mesh size upper and lower codends were used.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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(<http://library.wur.nl/WebQuery/wurpubs/fulltext/387860>)

	Lower (kg/h)	Upper (kg/h)	% Upper/ total catch
<b>Total catch</b>	149.7	25.4	14.5
Landings	33.6	6.3	15.8
Plaice >27cm	16	3.3	17.1
Sole >24cm	15	1.8	10.7
<b>All Discards</b>	116.1	19.1	14.1
Fish Discards	30.8	12.6	29.0
Sole <24cm	2.1	0.2	8.7
Plaice <27cm	11.5	2.3	16.7
Dab <30cm	6.8	3.1	31.3
whiting <27cm	3.4	4.2	55.3
Grey Gurnard	0.2	0.2	50

## RESULTS

The majority of the catch was found in the lower cod-end.

- this included 89% of the sole catch
- The upper codend caught
- 15% of landings
  - 14% of total discards
  - and 30% of the fish discards.
  - 31% of discarded dab and 55% of discarded whiting were found in the upper cod-end.

