

INTERNATIONAL
WHALING STATISTICS

LXXXIV

EDITED BY
THE COMMITTEE FOR WHALING STATISTICS



SANDEFJORD 1979

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CONTENTS

Preface	Page 5
Introduction	" 7
Table 1. — Whaling results for the various countries in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79	" 14
Table 2. — Average size of whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79	" 14
Table 3. — Whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79, by species, sex and size	" 15
Table 4. — Size of pregnant whale females caught in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79	" 16
Table 5. — Whale foetuses measured in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79, by species and groups of size, in each month	" 16
Table 6. — Whale foetuses measured in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79, by species and sex, in each month	" 17

PREFACE

This publication, International Whaling Statistics No. LXXXIV, embraces the results of the Antarctic whaling during the season 1978/79.

The statistical data are based on catch reports sent to the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics, Sandefjord.

Sandefjord, December 1979.

Einar Vangstein

INTRODUCTION

At the 30th Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission in 1978 the catch limit for minke whales was set at 6,221. At the special Commission meeting in Tokyo in December 1978 the catch limit for sperm whales was set at 3,820 males and 1,055 females. The quotas set include the 1978/79 Southern Hemisphere pelagic season and the 1979 coastal season.

In addition to the above quotas the Government of Japan had granted a special permit to catch 120 Bryde's whales in the Southern Hemisphere from 13th October 1978 to 30th April 1979.

The quotas set for minke whales were sub-divided on an Area basis. The total catches to be taken in any of the Areas I to VI should not exceed the limits shown below:

Area I	120° W— 60° W	738
Area II	60° W— 0	1,272
Area III	0 — 70° E	2,510
Area IV	70° E—130° E	1,389
Area V	130° E—170° W	563
Area VI	170° W—120° W	371
The total catch not to exceed		6,221

The quota set for sperm whales was sub-divided on a Division basis. The total catches in any of the Divisions 1 to 9 should not exceed the limits shown below:

		Male	Female
Division 1	60° W— 30° W	273	91
Division 2	30° W— 20° E	808	241
Division 3	20° E — 60° E	847	281
Division 4	60° E — 90° E	566	0
Division 5	90° E—130° E	0	0
Division 6	130° E—160° E	276	83
Division 7	160° E—170° W	176	98
Division 8	170° W—100° W	874	261
Division 9	100° W— 60° W	0	0
Total		3,820	1,055

Other important regulations governing the pelagic whaling in the Antarctic 1978/79 season were the following:

1. The open season for the taking of sperm whales was restricted to 8 months out of any period of twelve months.
2. The open season for the taking of minke whales was restricted to 6 consecutive months out of any period of twelve months.
3. It was forbidden to take sperm whales below 30 feet, also sperm whales over 45 feet in the Southern Hemisphere north of 40° South Latitude during the months of October to January inclusive.
4. It was forbidden to kill blue whales, fin whales, humpback whales, sei whales, Bryde's whales and suckling calves or female whales accompanied by calves.

The quotas set were split into national quotas by agreement between Japan, USSR and Brazil as follows:

	Minke whales	Sperm whales		
		Males	Females	Total
Japan	2,733	736	200	936
USSR	2,733	3,068	840	3,908
Brazil	755	16	15	31
	6,221	3,820	1,055	4,875

In the 1978/79 Antarctic season 1 Japanese and 2 USSR expeditions operated with a total of 31 catchers. The catch amounted to:

	Minke whales	Sperm whales
Japan	2,733	18
USSR	2,733	2,286
Total	5,466	2,304

In addition the Antarctic pelagic expeditions caught in the Southern Hemisphere north of 40° South 120 Bryde's whales (for scientific research purposes) and 1,804 sperm whales.

The total catch by Antarctic pelagic expeditions in the Southern Hemisphere north and south of 40° South amounted to:

	Bryde's whales	Minke whales	Sperm whales		Total
			Males	Females	
Japan	120	2,733	113	87	200
USSR	—	2,733	3,068	840	3,908
Total	120	5,466	3,181	927	4,108

The catch south of 40° South by Areas was:

	Minke whales	Sperm whales		Total
		Males	Females	
Area I	653	182	8	190
Area II	397	483	—	483
Area III	2,496	675	—	675
Area IV	1,370	161	—	161
Area V	414	250	—	250
Area VI	135	473	72	545
Total	1)¹5,465	2,224	80	2,304

The catch made in each Area by Antarctic pelagic expeditions in the Southern Hemisphere north of 40° South before and after the 1978/79 pelagic season was:

	Bryde's whales	Sperm whales		Total
		Males	Females	
Area I	—	—	—	—
Area II	—	403	230	633
Area III	—	453	340	793
Area IV	120	30	—	30
Area V	—	66	155	221
Area VI	—	5	122	127
Total	120	957	847	1,804

The total catch of sperm whales north and south of 40° South by Antarctic pelagic expeditions by Division was:

¹⁾ Excluding 1 whale lost.

	Sperm whales		
	Males	Females	Total
Division 1	257	76	333
Division 2	808	241	1,049
Division 3	647	253	900
Division 4	493	—	493
Division 5	—	—	—
Division 6	171	82	253
Division 7	145	73	218
Division 8	660	202	862
Division 9	—	—	—
Total	3,181	927	4,108

The average sizes (in English feet) of the different species and sexes of whales caught in the different Areas were as follows:

	Minke whales			Sperm whales		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Area I	28.3	29.3	28.7	46.5	34.9	46.0
Area II	27.9	29.1	28.9	50.5	—	50.5
Area III	27.7	28.9	28.5	47.3	—	47.3
Area IV	27.2	28.4	28.0	49.0	—	49.0
Area V	27.4	28.6	28.2	48.6	—	48.6
Area VI	27.6	28.4	27.9	47.4	35.0	45.8
Total	27.7	28.8	28.4	48.2	35.0	47.8

Table a shows the catch and production, table b and c catch by month, table d average size, table e whaling results for the various countries and table f the production of by-products. The tables also include data for 1971/72—1977/78 inclusive. Corresponding data for the seasons 1961/62—1970/71 will be found in publication No. LXVIII.

Table a. - Pelagic whaling in the Antarctic.

Years	Species of whales caught								Oil production Barrels	Expeditions	
	Blue	Fin	Hump- back	Sei/ Bryde's	Minke	Sperm	Others	Total		Floating factories	Catch- ers
1971/72	—	2,683	3	5,456	3,021	3,366		14,529	387,064	7	89 ¹⁾
1972/73	7	1,761	5	3,864	5,745	4,203		15,585	345,539	7	82
1973/74	—	1,288	—	4,392	7,713	4,927		18,320	334,065	8	78
1974/75	—	979	—	3,859	7,000	4,162		16,000	292,504	7	75
1975/76	—	206	—	1,821	6,034	2,829		10,890	180,076	5	56
1976/77	—	—	—	1,858	7,900	2,002		11,760	137,460	4	43
1977/78	—	—	—	565	4,978	2,160		7,703	130,004	3	34
1978/79	—	—	—	—	5,466	2,304		7,770	136,761	3	30

¹⁾ Including 1 combined floating factory/catcher.

Table b. - Antarctic, pelagic whaling, Catch by months in absolute figures

Species of whales, and seasons		Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	Total	Total including lost whales
Total animals	1971/72	321	4,093	4,828	2,982	2,021	267	14,512	14,526
	1972/73	846	5,737	4,508	2,342	1,650	486	15,569	15,573
	1973/74	2,579	4,748	4,695	3,146	2,327	818	18,313	18,320
	1974/75	1,607	3,920	4,301	2,846	2,082	1,243	15,999	16,000
	1975/76	1,318	3,007	2,398	2,482	1,409	274	10,888	10,890
	1976/77	1,738	3,184	2,598	3,225	797	218	11,760	11,760
	1977/78	120	2,468	1,741	2,506	868	—	7,703	7,703
	1978/79	—	2,537	2,190	2,175	867	—	7,769	7,770
Fin whales	1971/72	—	153	604	1,061	861	4	2,683	2,683
	1972/73	—	89	225	1,148	299	—	1,761	1,761
	1973/74	—	172	329	601	174	11	1,287	1,288
	1974/75	—	3	206	367	356	47	979	979
	1975/76	—	15	56	91	44	—	206	206
	1976/77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1977/78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sei/Bryde's whales	1971/72	—	2,348	2,098	540	441	28	5,455	5,456
	1972/73	—	1,347	1,681	488	346	1	3,863	3,864
	1973/74	—	1,294	1,518	1,408	159	7	4,386	4,392
	1974/75	—	1,041	1,882	727	186	23	3,859	3,859
	1975/76	—	458	769	438	151	3	1,819	1,821
	1976/77	—	546	657	546	109	—	1,858	1,858
	1977/78	—	16	237	198	114	—	565	565
Minke whales	1971/72	105	1,195	1,031	675	13	—	3,019	3,021
	1972/73	604	3,453	1,687	—	—	—	5,744	5,745
	1973/74	2,501	2,656	1,539	900	117	—	7,713	7,713
	1974/75	1,571	2,410	1,522	1,496	—	—	6,999	7,000
	1975/76	1,263	2,098	1,018	1,655	—	—	6,034	6,034
	1976/77	1,736	2,285	1,324	2,555	—	—	7,900	7,900
	1977/78	113	2,193	799	1,873	—	—	4,978	4,978
	1978/79	—	1,886	1,750	1,735	94	—	5,465	5,466
Sperm whales	1971/72	216	397	1,095	706	706	235	3,355	3,366
	1972/73	242	848	915	706	1,005	485	4,201	4,203
	1973/74	78	626	1,309	237	1,877	¹⁾ 800	4,927	4,927
	1974/75	36	466	691	256	1,540	²⁾ 1,173	4,162	4,162
	1975/76	55	436	555	298	1,214	271	2,829	2,829
	1976/77	2	353	617	124	688	218	2,002	2,002
	1977/78	7	259	705	435	754	—	2,160	2,160
	1978/79	—	651	440	440	773	—	2,304	2,304

¹⁾ Including 48 in May. ²⁾ Including 201 in May.

Table c. - Antarctic, pelagic whaling. Catch by months in percentage figures.

Species of whales. Seasons		Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	Total	Total including lost whales
Total animals	1971/72	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Fin Whales	1971/72	—	3.7	12.5	35.6	42.6	1.5	18.5	18.5
	1972/73	—	1.5	5.0	49.0	18.1	—	11.3	11.3
	1973/74	—	3.6	7.0	19.1	7.5	1.3	7.0	7.0
	1974/75	—	—	4.8	12.9	17.1	3.8	6.1	6.1
	1975/76	—	0.5	2.3	3.7	3.1	—	1.9	1.9
	1976/77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1977/78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sei/Bryde's whales	1971/72	—	57.4	43.5	18.1	21.8	10.5	37.6	37.6
	1972/73	—	23.5	37.3	20.8	21.0	0.2	24.8	24.8
	1973/74	—	27.3	32.3	44.8	6.8	0.9	24.0	24.0
	1974/75	—	26.6	43.7	25.5	8.9	1.8	24.1	24.1
	1975/76	—	15.2	32.1	17.6	10.7	1.1	16.7	16.7
	1976/77	—	17.1	25.3	16.9	13.7	—	15.8	15.8
	1977/78	—	0.7	13.6	7.9	13.1	—	7.3	7.3
Minke whales	1971/72	32.7	29.2	21.4	22.6	0.7	—	20.8	20.8
	1972/73	71.4	60.2	37.4	—	—	—	36.9	36.9
	1973/74	97.0	55.9	32.8	28.6	5.0	—	42.1	42.1
	1974/75	97.8	61.5	35.4	52.6	—	—	43.8	43.8
	1975/76	95.8	69.8	42.5	66.7	—	—	55.4	55.4
	1976/77	99.9	71.8	51.0	79.2	—	—	67.2	67.2
	1977/78	94.2	88.8	45.9	74.7	—	—	64.6	64.6
	1978/79	—	74.3	79.9	79.7	10.9	—	70.3	70.3
Sperm whales	1971/72	67.3	9.7	22.6	23.7	34.9	88.0	23.1	23.1
	1972/73	28.6	14.8	20.3	30.2	60.9	99.8	27.0	27.0
	1973/74	3.0	13.2	27.9	7.5	80.7	97.8	26.9	26.9
	1974/75	2.2	11.9	16.1	9.0	74.0	94.4	26.0	26.0
	1975/76	4.2	14.5	23.1	12.0	86.2	98.9	26.0	26.0
	1976/77	0.1	11.1	23.7	3.9	86.3	100.0	17.0	17.0
	1977/78	5.8	10.5	40.5	17.4	86.9	—	28.1	28.1
	1978/79	—	25.7	20.1	20.3	89.1	—	29.7	29.7

Table d. - Average size of whales killed in the Antarctic, by species of whales.

	Fin whales			Sei whales			Minke whales			Sperm whales		
	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet
1971/72	64.3	67.0	65.7	46.4	47.9	47.1	27.3	28.5	28.0	45.0	37.5	44.7
1972/73	64.7	67.7	66.2	46.9	48.2	47.5	26.3	27.1	26.7	45.1	34.8	44.3
1973/74	63.9	66.8	65.5	47.1	48.8	47.9	26.5	27.8	27.3	44.7	34.7	42.2
1974/75	64.5	67.4	66.0	47.3	48.5	47.8	26.9	28.3	27.8	44.9	34.5	42.8
1975/76	64.2	67.6	65.9	47.2	48.5	47.8	27.2	28.3	27.8	46.5	35.0	45.0
1976/77	—	—	—	47.0	48.6	47.7	27.4	28.7	28.2	46.0	34.1	45.2
1977/78	—	—	—	47.7	50.3	49.0	27.4	28.8	28.3	47.0	35.3	46.7
1978/79	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.7	28.8	28.4	48.2	35.0	47.8

Table e. - Antarctic, pelagic whaling results for the various countries.

	All countries			Japan			Norway			U.S.S.R.		
	Number of whales killed	Oil production	Catchers employed	Number of whales killed	Oil production	Catchers employed	Number of whales killed	Oil production	Catchers employed	Number of whales killed	Oil production	Catchers employed
		Barrels			Barrels			Barrels			Barrels	
1971/72 ...	14,529	387,064	89	8,711	159,610	41	3	36	1 ¹⁾	5,815	227,418	47
1972/73 ...	15,585	345,539	82	6,285	119,307	35	—	—	—	9,300	226,232	47
1973/74 ...	18,320	334,065	78	7,087	84,998	31	—	—	—	11,233	249,067	47
1974/75 ...	16,000	292,504	75	6,656	89,547	30	—	—	—	9,344	202,957	45
1975/76 ...	10,890	180,076	56	4,597	43,588	23	—	—	—	6,293	136,488	33
1976/77 ...	11,760	137,460	43	5,316	37,067	18	—	—	—	6,444	100,393	25
1977/78 ...	7,703	130,004	34	2,668	11,864	10	—	—	—	5,035	118,140	24
1978/79 ...	7,770	136,761	30	2,751	7,970	7	—	—	—	5,019	128,761	23

¹⁾ Combined catcher/floating factory.

Table f. - Production of by-products in the Antarctic.¹⁾

Seasons Countries	Whale meat-meal, bone-meal, grax meal, guano	Whale liver or liver flakes	Liver oil Mill. units Vitamin A	Whale meat, blubber, ventral grooves	Whale solubles	Other products
	L. tons	L. tons		L. tons	L. tons	L. tons
1971/72	13,397	1,791	1,253,000	104,438	1,574	1,211
1972/73	13,423	1,516	1,915,000	87,384	1,624	12,216
1973/74	14,659	1,694	2,092,000	93,338	1,723	3,412
1974/75	14,210	1,700	2,063,000	95,863	1,151	301
1975/76	7,982	1,737	—	66,308	—	155
1976/77	6,565	1,302	—	64,911	—	188
1977/78	5,426	1,396	681 l.t.	46,182	—	39
1978/79						
Japan	—	—	—	13,443	—	8
USSR	4,740	1,234	—	29,540	—	15
Total	4,740	1,234	—	42,983	—	23

¹⁾ Including by-products from whales caught north of 40° S.

TABLES

Antarctic season 1978/79.

Table 1. - Whaling results for the various countries in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79.**Pelagic whaling.**

Countries	Species of whales caught			Oil production. Barrels of 170 kg	Expeditions	
	Minke	Sperm	Total		Floating factories	Catchers
Japan	2,733	18	2,751	7,970	1	7
USSR	2,733	2,286	¹⁾ 5,019	128,791	2	23
Total	5,466	2,304	7,770	136,761	3	30

¹⁾ In addition 49 killer whales were caught.

Table 2. — Average size of whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79.**Pelagic whaling.**

Number of whales measured.	Expedition.	Average size.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
Minke whales.				
Males ¹⁾ 2,041	No. 1	27.3	28.3	27.9
Females 3,424		2	28.1	29.2
Total 5,465		3	28.1	29.3
Average		27.7	28.8	28.4
Sperm whales.				
Males 2,224	No. 1	46.0	—	46.0
Females 80		2	49.2	49.2
Total 2,304		3	47.5	35.0
Average		48.2	35.0	47.8

¹⁾ Exklusive 1 lost.

**Table 3.—Whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79,
by species, sex and size.**

Pelagic whaling.

Minke whales.

Engl. feet	Number of		Total	Engl. feet	Number of		Total
	males	females			males	females	
18	—	1	1	31	27	436	463
21	—	3	3	32	—	52	52
22	12	15	27	33	—	10	10
23	8	25	33	Total	2,041	3,424	1)5,465
24	24	47	71				
25	103	59	162	Average size: { Males 27.7 feet Females 28.8 „ Total 28.4 „ Per cent: { Males 37.4 Females 62.6			
26	258	147	405				
27	442	307	749				
28	605	667	1,272				
29	422	886	1,308				
30	140	769	909				

1) Exclusive 1 lost.

Sperm whales.

Engl. feet	Number of		Total	Engl. feet	Number of		Total
	males	females			males	females	
31	—	1	1	50	298	—	298
32	—	2	2	51	170	—	170
33	1	4	5	52	175	—	175
34	—	19	19	53	71	—	71
35	—	29	29	54	44	—	44
36	2	15	17	55	15	—	15
37	11	8	19	56	8	—	8
38	11	2	13	57	3	—	3
39	25	—	25	Total	2,224	80	2,304
40	15	—	15				
41	21	—	21	Average size: { Males 48.2 feet Females 35.0 „ Total 47.8 „ Per cent: { Males 96.5 Females 3.5			
42	18	—	18				
43	44	—	44				
44	76	—	76				
45	131	—	131				
46	204	—	204				
47	253	—	253				
48	315	—	315				
49	313	—	313				

Table 4.—Size of pregnant female whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79.

Pelagic whaling.

Minke whales.¹⁾

Length	Number of pregnant females	Length	Number of pregnant females	Number of fetuses measured 2,504 of which twin pairs 10
25	5	31	363	
26	45	32	44	
27	178	33	7	
28	503	Total	2,494	
29	703			
30	646			

¹⁾ Exclusive of 92 females with no information of pregnancy.

Sperm whales.

Length	Number of pregnant females	Length	Number of pregnant females	Number of fetuses measured 22
31	1	37	1	
34	4	38	1	
35	12	Total	22	
36	3			

¹⁾ Exclusive of 28 females with no information of pregnancy.

Table 5.—Whale fetuses measured in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79, by species and groups of size, in each month.

Pelagic whaling.

Minke whale fetuses.

Groups of size. Engl. feet	Dec.	Jan.	Febr.	March	Total
0'— 0' 11" ¹⁾	362	231	79	5	677
1'— 1' 11"	354	356	152	5	867
2'— 2' 11"	139	178	161	8	486
3'— 3' 11"	33	93	167	7	300
4'— 4' 11"	5	39	63	3	110
5'— 5' 11"	—	12	34	3	49
6'— 6' 11"	—	1	4	2	7
7'— 7' 11"	—	2	—	—	2
8'— 8' 11"	4	—	—	—	4
9'— 9' 11"	1	—	—	—	1
10'—10' 11"	1	—	—	—	1
Total	899	912	660	33	2,504
Average size	1' 5"	1' 7"	2' 5"	2' 8"	1' 8"

¹⁾ Including very small fetuses (first stage) not measured and fetuses lost.

Table 5 (continued).

Sperm whale fetuses.

Groups of size. Engl. feet	March
0'— 0'11"	8
1'— 1'11"	4
2'— 2'11"	4
11'—11'11"	1
12'—12'11"	3
13'—13'11"	2
Total	22
Average size	4' 1"

Table 6.—Whale fetuses measured in the Antarctic in the season 1978/79, by species and sex, in each month.

Pelagic whaling.

	Number of		Sex not determined	Total	Number of males per 100 females
	males	females			
Minke whale fetuses.					
December	426	385	88	899	111
January	412	425	75	912	97
February	304	321	35	660	95
March	19	12	2	33	158
Total	1,161	1,143	200	2,504	102
Sperm whale fetuses.					
March	7	8	7	22	88

