

International cooperation in Baltic fisheries research through centuries: one common library collection to be valued

by Natalya Kondratyeva



“Riding the Wave: Information Retrieval and Resource Management for the future”
17th Biennial Conference of the European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and
Information Centres (EURASLIC), Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Research,
Bremen, Germany, 08-10 May, 2017

Collection provides an overview of the history and most significant output of scientific cooperation among three fisheries institutes taking part at the Baltic Sea investigations from the mid-1970s until 1990



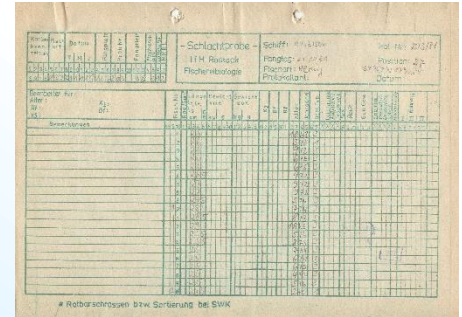
- Baltic Fisheries Research Institute (БалтНИИРХ) in Riga, Latvia, including Tallinn Department, Estonia, USSR;
- Institute for High Sea Fisheries and Production Technology (IfH) in Rostock, German Democratic Republic;
- Fisheries Research Institute (MIR) in Gdynia, Poland



Materials of Trilateral Counseling Meetings organized by the institutes

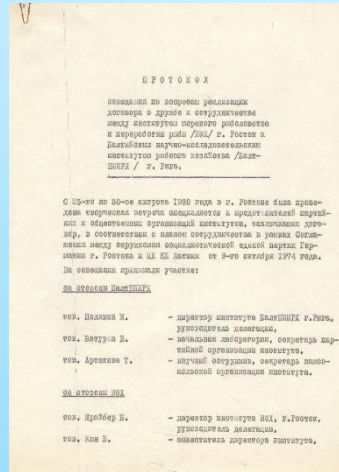
Collection contains different documents (printed and manuscripts):

- Agreements
- Meeting protocols
- Work plans
- Reports
- Datasets
- Guidelines
- Bibliography



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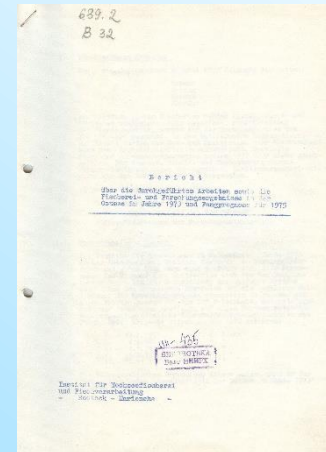


ПРОТОКОЛ

С 30-го по 30-ое августа 1980 года в г. Ростове была проведена конференция по вопросам сотрудничества в развитии науки и техники с участием представителей из институтов Германии и СССР. Конференция была посвящена обсуждению вопросов сотрудничества в области науки и техники, а также об организации совместных исследований в области физики плазмы, астрономии, биологии и др. Основные результаты работы конференции отражены в настоящем протоколе.

Участники конференции:

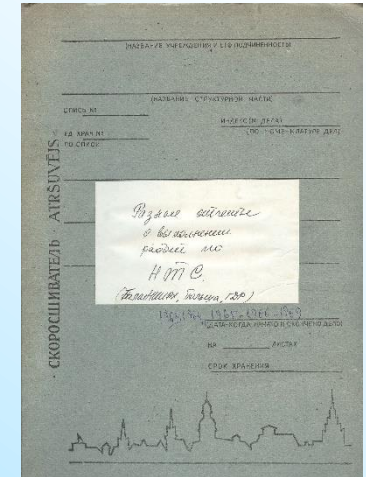
г-н. Власов В.	- директор института ВАСИИАН г.Ростов, уполномоченный делегат,
г-н. Векунин В.	- заместитель директора, секретарь научной организационной комиссии,
г-н. Артемьев Т.	- научный сотрудник, секретарь научно-исследовательской организации института.



PROCEEDINGS

Über die Interdisziplinäre Arbeit der Physiker in der Sowjetunion und in der DDR (1977) und die Ergebnisse der 1979

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Взаимное сотрудничество
в развитии науки

А. Г. Г. Г.
(Москва, июль 1980)

Languages: German, Polish, Russian, English

Background for international fisheries management in the Baltic Sea

- Convention on Fishing and Conservation of the Living Resources in the Baltic Sea and the Belts (signed in Gdansk in 1973)
- International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC) was established in 1974 in order to implement the intentions of the Gdansk Convention
- IBSFC regulated fishery in the Baltic by annual catch limitations (Total Allowable Catches, TACs) for main commercial fish species (herring, sprat and cod).
- Scientific advice on the appropriate levels of catches was received from the International Council for the exploration of the Sea (ICES)

Fish stock assessment – estimation the size and structure of fish populations - provides the most important information and plays a key role in preparing of conventional scientific advice

Trilateral scientific cooperation: background

- *Baltic Fisheries Research Institute*

Балтийский научно-исследовательский институт рыбного хозяйства
(БалтНИИРХ)

- *Institute for High Sea Fisheries and Production Technology*

Institut für Hochseefischerei und Verarbeitungstechnik (IfH)

- *Fisheries Research Institute*

Morski Instytut Rybacki (MIR)

Cooperation was carried out in frame of several agreements:

- ❑ Intergovernmental Agreement between the socialist countries for cooperation in the field of marine fisheries (signed in 1962);
- ❑ Direct Agreements between БалтНИИРХ and IfH, БалтНИИРХ and MIR.
- ❑ **Regular cooperation aimed at joint fish stock assessment from the beginning of 1970s**

Trilateral scientific cooperation: two kinds of meetings

- Trilateral meetings held **in spring** were devoted to Baltic fish stock assessment and preparation of annual respective forecasts. The combined data and recommendations were used by relevant ICES fish stock assessment Working Groups



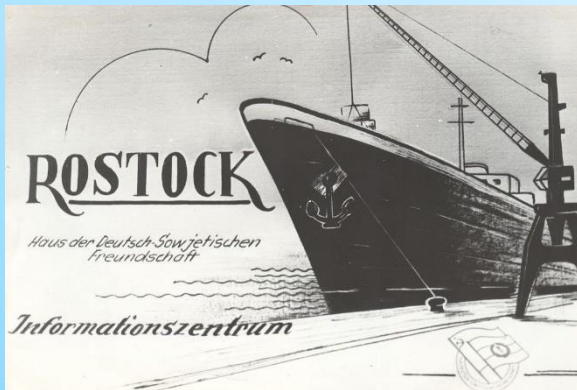
MIR, Gdynia, the end of 1970s

Trilateral scientific cooperation: two kinds of meetings

- Trilateral Meetings held **in autumn** addressed the main objective to improve fish stock assessment methods for main commercial fish species (herring, sprat, cod and flounder).
- Methodological issues were discussed since joint programs requested comparison and unification of research methods:
 - ❖ intercalibration of hydroacoustic survey
 - ❖ comparative determination of age of sprat and herring, population determination of herring using otoliths

Cooperation between БалтНИИРХ and IfH

- Local cooperation between *Baltic Fisheries Research Institute* and *Institute for High Fisheries and Production Technology* began in October 1974, when the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement was signed up



- In May 1975 at the Meeting in Rostock the first comprehensive plan was submitted for joint research and exchange of scientific data, including:
 - ❖ operative exchange by fishery data from own national fishing zones,
 - ❖ transmission of fishery data as well as hydrological information by means of direct communication channel **Riga-Rostock**

Cooperation between БалтНИИРХ and IfH



The first joint research cruise of r/v “**Mazirbe**” (BaltNIIRH) and r/v “**EISBÄR**” (IfH) was carried out in March 1975. It was committed to comparison of fish tagging methods.

International hydroacoustic surveys

- In accordance with joint program the first hydroacoustic survey attended by specialists from БалтНИИРХ, IfH and MIR was carried out in May 1978 aboard the r/v **“Zvezda Baltiki”** in order to estimate total biomass of the Baltic sprat (in the open Baltic and Soviet and Polish national fishing zones).
- During the 1980s, hydroacoustic cruises in May were annually carried out in the whole Baltic Sea with participation of specialists from all the three institutes on research vessels **“Zvezda Baltiki”** or **“Issledovatel Baltiki”** (БалтНИИРХ), **“Ernst Haeckel”** or **“EIBBÄR”** (IfH) and **“Dr. Lubecki”** (MIR).

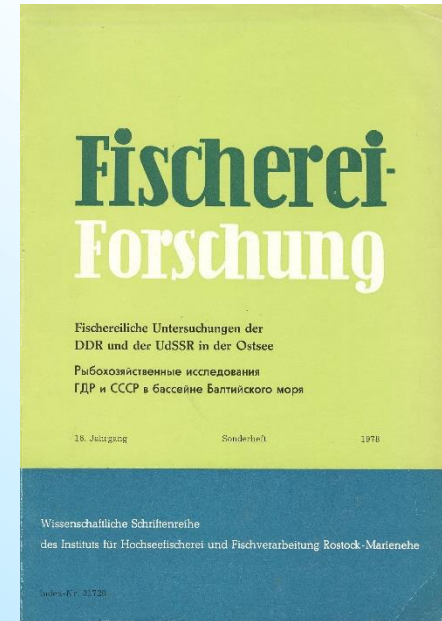
Trilateral scientific cooperation: the value

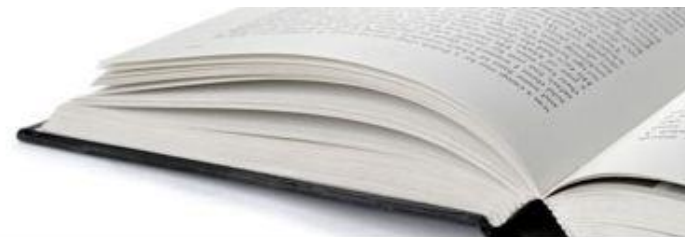
- September 1990 - the last meeting of БАЛТНИИРХ and IfH authorities in Rostock. Visit to the Federal Research Centre for Fisheries in Hamburg.
- The last meetings attended by fisheries biologists of all the three institutes:
March 1990 - for preparing annual fish stock assessment (in Gdynia);
April 1990 - concerning the research methods (in Gdynia).

The Institutes' authorities and researchers appreciated long-time trilateral cooperation aimed at solving the actual issues related to fisheries in the Baltic Sea. The passed stage of mutually useful connections ensured real scientific achievements and established collegial relations between the fisheries scientists.

Publications

- Journal “Fischerei-Forschung”, 15 special editions from 1975 to 1990:
“Fisheries research of the GDR and the USSR in the Baltic Sea basin”
Languages: German and Russian
- 108 articles by researchers from the Baltic Fisheries Research Institute (in Russian).
The articles have been scanned and submitted onto e-repository CEEMAR.
- “Proceedings on Biological Productivity of the Baltic Sea”,
3 parts, 1984 (in Russian)





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The collection of publications from Fischerei-Forschung, Fischereiliche Untersuchungen der DDR und der UdSSR in der Ostsee. Коллекция публикаций из Fischerei-Forschung, Рыбохозяйственные исследования ГДР и СССР в бассейне Балтийского моря, 1980
- [Fischerei-Forschung 1983 \[0\]](#)

The collection of publications from Fischerei-Forschung, Fischereiliche Untersuchungen der DDR und der UdSSR in der Ostsee. Коллекция публикаций из Fischerei-Forschung, Рыбохозяйственные исследования ГДР и СССР в бассейне Балтийского моря, 1983
- [Fischerei-Forschung 1986 \[11\]](#)

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[Особенности питания и поведения сеголетков шпрота в Балтийском море](#)

[Особенности воспроизводства балтийского шпрота в 1971 - 1985 гг.](#)

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Special collections: the value

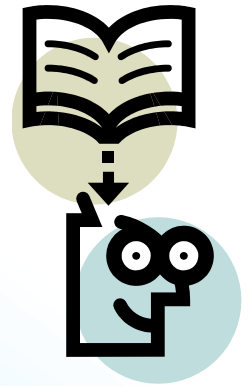
Special collection:

- a collection of materials segregated from a general library collection according to form, subject, age, condition, rarity, source, or value.
- organize, maintain and preserve primary research materials as well as historical materials to meet the needs of their research institutes
- while general collections are significant in their comprehensiveness or age, special collections tend to be unique. They include manuscripts and archival materials unduplicated elsewhere.

Special collections to be valued and managed

Challenges managing collections of “grey” materials:

- Exploring into the potential of the collection
- Does the collection belong to a Library or Archive or Scientific Data Archive (in case it exists)?
- Is it possible to digitize the documents (quality of the manuscript, print quality)?
- Is it essential to digitize all documents in this collection?

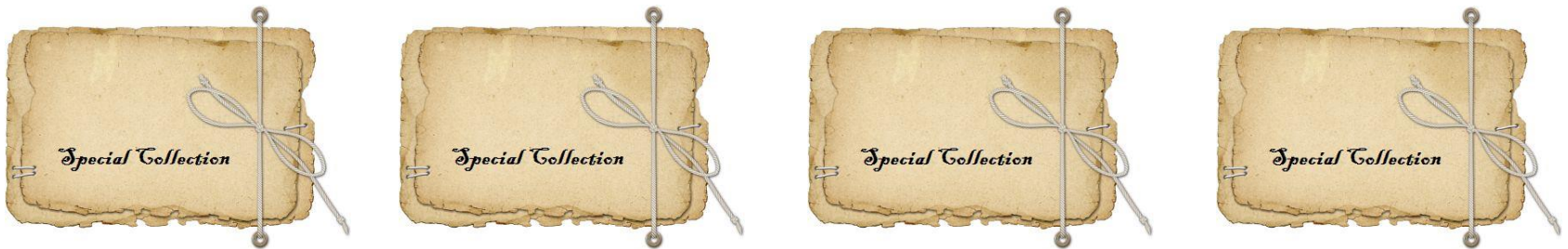


Special collections to be valued and managed

- **DIGITIZATION!**
- **Preservation in institutional repository** (in case it exists)

OR

- Systematization of printed grey materials and manuscripts collected by library holdings, shelving them in one location (usually in special boxes) for easy retrieval.
- **An extended description for each collection should be prepared!**
- **Creation of electronic bibliographic databases for institutional grey materials**



Special collections to be valued and managed

- Grey materials collected and preserved by research institute's libraries have great value as these materials reflect the long-term history of research conducted in the corresponding field and represent permanent records of the collective achievements of the scientific community within the parent institute.
- Only well-structured and accessible special collections eventually may develop from a huge complex of small “pieces of information” into “knowledge assets” of the parent institute.