



Rejs ud og bliv en bedre forsker

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FOTO LINE REEH



Det store net gøres klar. Sargassohavet er næringsfattigt, og det tager en time at fiske en lille spandfuld småfisk, yngel og gopler.

✦ Readying the big net. The Sargasso Sea is nutrient-poor and it takes an hour to catch a bucketful of small fish, larvae and jellyfish.



FOTO MICHAEL MILLER

Dana ved afsejlingen fra Hamilton. Skibet ejes af DTU og er Danmarks største havforskningskib.

✦ Dana on its departure from Hamilton. Owned by DTU, Dana is Denmark's biggest marine research vessel.



FOTO LINE REEH

Multinettet har fem forskellige net, som åbnes et ad gangen på vej mod overfladen, så man kan identificere de vandlag, hvor der er stor biologisk aktivitet og mange dyr.

✦ The multinet has five different nets that can be opened separately on their way to the surface enabling the researchers to identify the water strata where there is major biological activity and abundant marine life.

På ålejagt i Sargassohavet

YNGEL DTU's havforskningskib Dana er i marts og april i Sargassohavet for at undersøge, hvilken rolle ændringer i havmiljøet spiller for ålens voldsomme tilbagegang i Europa.

Af Line Reeh

Den danske ålebestand er i voldsom tilbagegang. Grunden til det skal muligvis findes i Sargassohavet 6000 km fra Danmark, så langt svømmer ålen nemlig for at gyde. DTU's store havforskningskib Dana er derfor taget på togt til Sargassohavet midt ude i Atlanterhavet, og forskerne håber samtidig at finde svar på, hvorfor ålen netop gyder netop her. Når åleynglen er klækket, tager den turen tilbage til Europa med havstrømmene, denne gang fulgt til dørs af Dana, der sejlede fra Hirtshals den 28. februar.

To af verdens 19 ålearter yngler i Sargassohavet, nemlig den amerikanske og den europæiske. Et af forskningsprojekterne om bord går ud på at undersøge, om de to arter parrer sig med hinanden.

Dansk Åleekspedition 2014 ledes af DTU Aqua og finansieres af Dansk Center for Havforskning og Carlsbergfondet. 21 forskere fra ind- og udland er på arbejde i Danas fem laboratorier sammen med skibets besætning på 17 mand.

Ekspeditionen kan følges på Facebook (www.facebook.com/aaleekspedition) frem til den 5. maj, hvor Dana er retur i Hirtshals.



FOTO LINE REEH

Travlhed i laboratorierne om bord. Fangsten bliver sorteret og artsbestemt, og prøver bliver taget fra til DNA-analyse i land.

✦ Bustle in the on-board laboratories. The catch is sorted according to species and samples taken for land-based DNA analysis.



Eel hunt in Sargasso Sea

EEL LARVAE DTU's large marine research vessel, Dana, is embarking on an expedition to determine whether changes in the Sargasso Sea are the cause of the drastic decline in the domestic European eel. Situated 6,000 kilometres off the coast of Denmark, the Sargasso Sea is namely the spawning ground of the European eel.

The expedition will seek to discover exactly why the eel spawn here.

Once the eel larvae have hatched, they embark on the long return journey to Europe buoyed by the ocean currents—on this occasion accompanied by Dana, which sailed from Hirtshals on 28 February.

Two of the world's 19 eel species spawn in

the Sargasso Sea, namely the American eel and the European eel. One of the research projects on board is to determine whether cross-breeding occurs between the two species.

The Danish Eel Expedition 2014 is headed by DTU Aqua and co-financed by the Danish Centre for Marine Research and the Carlsberg Foundation.

In addition to the 17-man crew, a team of 21 Danish and international researchers are aboard the vessel, busy at work in Dana's five laboratories.

You can follow the expedition on Facebook at (www.facebook.com/aaleekspedition) until 5 May, when Dana returns to Hirtshals.