

Small Pelagic Pilot Plan

February-April 2020

For Regional sampling Pilot Plan vessels which met the following criteria were selected:

- using OTM,
- its total landing in 2019 was 10t minimum,
- being active at least once in the period February-April in 2019,
- targeting sprat and herring (over 95%).

The vessels above 17.5m length were selected.

In total, 56 vessels were chosen using Random Sampling application, with returning and with equal probability. The same application is used for selecting the vessels in National Sampling Program in Poland.

By using the Random Sampling application ten vessels were chosen for the Pilot Study. A coordinator called to the contact person from the selected vessel maximum five times per week. The calls were made when the weather forecast was good, and when the staff was available to pick up the sample from the harbour. A coordinator asked for a sample from the next trip. The sample was minimum 5kg weight and it was taken from an unsorted catch from the first haul. The fish was fresh or frozen. Samples were offered by fisherman for free. All necessary information about the sample were collected from the fisherman.