

sequence the distribution of the first bottom-stages is different, for instance, in cod and saithe, as shown in Fig. 525. The young saithe, having a comparatively short pelagic life, occur mainly on the south and west coasts, and only to a small extent on the north and east coasts. The eggs and fry of the cod are pelagic for a longer period, and consequently the majority of them drift round to the north and east coasts.

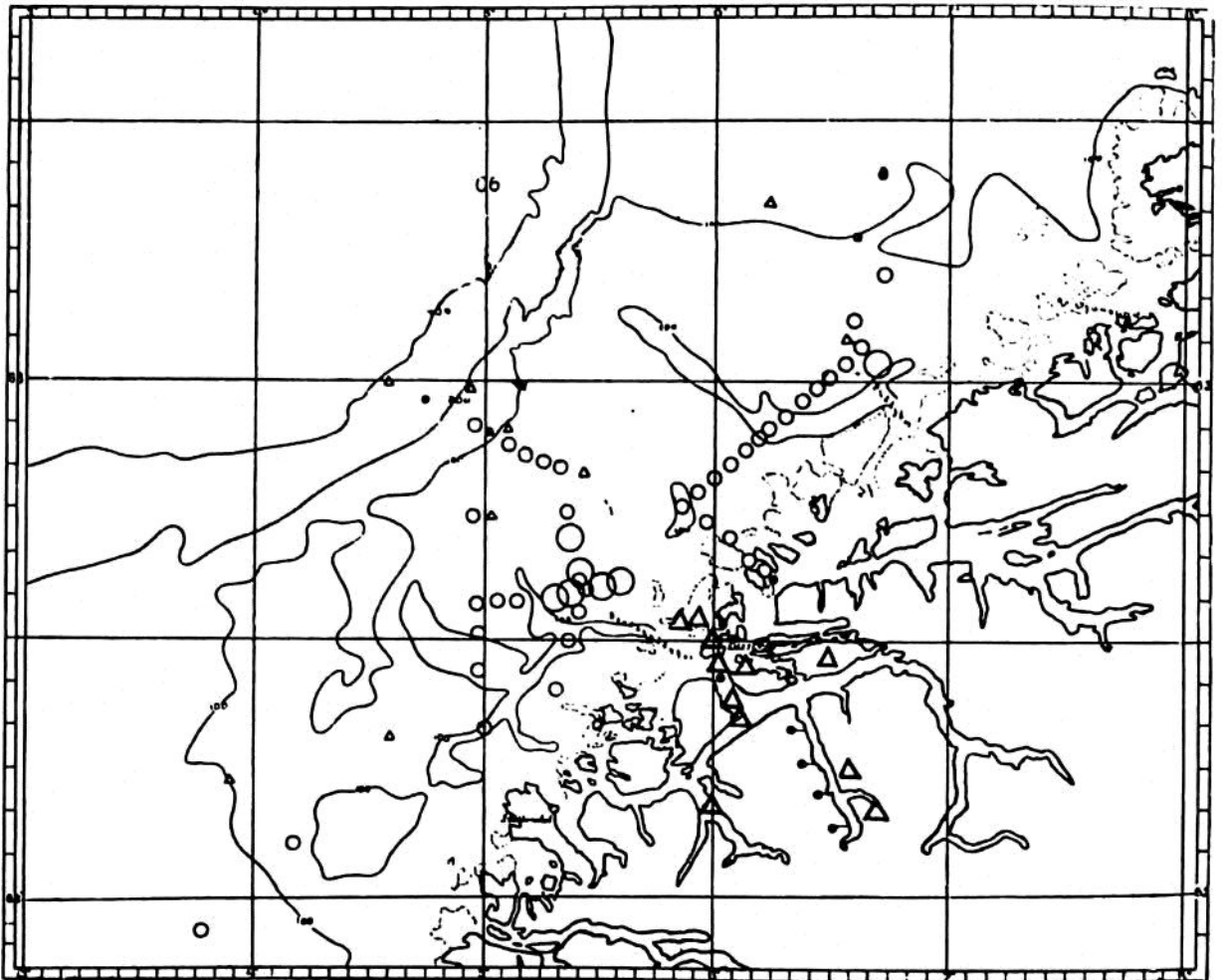


FIG. 524.—DISTRIBUTION OF EGGS AND LARVÆ OF GADIDS IN THE ROMSDAL DISTRICT. Dots denote that less than 500 eggs were taken; small circles, that 500 to 10,000 eggs were taken; large circles, that 10,000 to 100,000 eggs were taken (March to April 1906)—all in hauls of five minutes' duration. Small triangles denote that less than 100 pelagic fry were taken, large triangles, that 100 to 10,000 pelagic fry were taken per hour in May to June 1906. (From Damas' investigations with the "Michael Sars.")

When currents run off-shore, the direction of the current and the extent of the influence of the coast-water in the open ocean can be ascertained by studying the distribution of organisms born on the coast banks. As we have seen, this study is also very important for our ideas as to the amount of nutriment carried from the land to the open ocean. Fish fry are actually such current indicators, and in the Norwegian Sea they are accompanied by stinging medusæ (*Cyanea capillata*),