

Agenda Item 6.2: Post-mortem and Stranding Schemes

**Information submitted by Poland in response
to post-mortem research questionnaire**

Submitted by: Secretariat



**NOTE:
IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING
THEIR OWN COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

Questionnaire
on post mortem research schemes
within the ASCOBANS Agreement area

Name and address of reporting institution	Hel Marine Station, University of Gdansk, 84-150 Morska 2, POLAND Tel +48 58 6750 836, Fax: +48 58 6750 420, hel@univ.gda.pl
Name of respondent	Iwona Kuklik
What data are recorded routinely?	Species, location and date of finding, condition of carcass, by-catch signs, circumstances, name of finder/informer, body measurements
Description of methods and units of measurement used	Post mortem analysis are taken according to the guideline by Kuiken, T and Hartmann, M.G. (1993). Dissection techniques and tissue sampling. Proceedings of the ECS Workshop, Leiden.
List of tissue samples usually taken	Blubber, skin, muscle, liver, kidney, gonads, spleen, lung, heart, stomach, intestines, skeleton, teeth, parasites.
How are the samples preserved?	Frozen in -25 degrees Celsius. Teeth in alcohol. Parasites in alcohol.
How are carcasses disposed of?	Sent for utilisation to approved commercial organic waste-disposal company
Are data recorded in a computer database? Please describe	Records have been entered in the computer database since 1988.
How many data sets (by species) do you have?	84 records on harbour porpoise 7 records on dolphins
Which computer software is used?	PC IBM: MS Excel, Access, Arc View
Do you foresee any problems (e.g. regarding intellectual property rights etc.) related to a central database?	Central database should be maintain by a coordinating authorities (ASCOBANS, HELCOM for Baltic porpoises) and available on the agreed rules.
What advantages would you expect from a central database?	View of current data on distribution, by-catch, strandings, trends in abundance and health status. According to small sample size in the Baltic it would be a useful source of recent reliable data
Additional information	Current information about new accidental by-catch porpoises are reported in webside of Hel Marine Station UG: www.hel.univ.gda.pl (in Polish)