Do grey seals use above water stimuli in foraging?

Magdalena Beszczyńska (magbe142@student.liu.se), Linköpings Universitet, Sweden

Objective

- investigate possible use of sense of smell in the foraging behaviour of grey seals
- the experiment expectation:
 the highest frequency of
 baits taken from attractive
 buoys

Methods

- · twelve sphere shaped buoys
- three treatments:
 - perforated attractivePA (salmon oil)
 - perforated repellent PR (seal oil)
 - perforated control PC(no scent)



- the buoys connected to:
 - the setups with disposable photo cameras
 - the setups without photo cameras

Legend:

- 1 pulley
- 2 plastic pipe
- 3 disposable camera



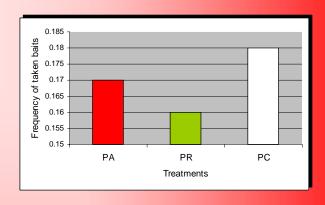


Conclusion

the smell is of minor importance in the foraging behaviour of grey seals

Results

 the frequency of taken baits almost no different between treatments



 successfully taken pictures from underwater cameras prove that the baits were taken by seals

