

INTERNATIONAL  
WHALING STATISTICS  
74  
LXXIV

EDITED BY  
THE COMMITTEE FOR WHALING STATISTICS



OSLO 1974

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PRINTED BY  
GRØNDAHL & SØN, OSLO

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## **PREFACE**

The present publication, International Whaling Statistics No. LXXIV, embraces the results of the Antarctic whaling during the season 1973/74.

The statistical data in this publication are based on catch reports sent to the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics, Sandefjord.

Oslo, December 1974.

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## INTRODUCTION

At the 25th meeting of the International Whaling Commission held in London in 1973 the Antarctic quotas for fin and sei/Bryde's whales were set at:

Fin whales .....	1,450
Sei/Bryde's whales .....	4,500

The set quotas were by agreement between Japan, U.S.S.R. and Norway split into national quotas as follows:

	Japan	U.S.S.R.	Norway	Total
Fin whales .....	867	583	—	1,450
Sei/Bryde's whales .....	2,632	1,768	100	4,500

No Norwegian expedition operated in or outside the Antarctic in the season 1973/74.

The catch limit for Antarctic minke whales was set at 5,000. Japan and U.S.S.R. lodged objections to this quota, and agreed to the taking of 4,000 animals each.

The catch limit for sperm whales in the Southern Hemisphere was set at 8,000 males and 5,000 females for the 1973/74 pelagic season and the 1974 coastal season. This catch limit was by agreement between the countries involved split into national quotas as follows:

Japan .....	1,200 males	690 females
U.S.S.R. ....	5,000 males	2,900 females
South Africa .....	900 males	905 females
Australia .....	900 males	505 females

Other important regulations governing the pelagic whaling in the Antarctic in the 1973/74 season were the following:

1. The open season for the taking of fin, sei and Bryde's whales was from December 12th to April 7th, both days inclusive.
2. The open season for the taking of sperm whales was 8 months.
3. The open season for the taking of minke whales was 6 months.

4. It was forbidden to take fin whales under 57 feet, sei and Bryde's whales under 40 feet and sperm whales under 30 feet. Further, it was forbidden to kill blue whales, humpback whales, right whales, and also all female whales accompanied by calf.

In the 1973/74 Antarctic season 5 Japanese and 3 U.S.S.R. expeditions operated with a total of 78 catchers. Two of the Japanese expeditions caught minke whales only. The catch amounted to 1,288 fin whales, 4,392 sei whales, 7,713 minke whales and 4,927 sperm whales. In addition some of the expeditions hunted sperm whales in the waters north of 40° South on their voyages to and from the Antarctic. The total catch of sperm whales was the following:

	On voyage to Antarctic N. of 40° S.	In Antarctic S. of 40° S	On voyage from Antarctic N. of 40°	Total
Japan .....	370	45	—	415
U.S.S.R. ....	361	4,882	2,657	7,900
	731	4,927	2,657	8,315

The distribution of whales caught south of 40° South by series was:

	Fin whales	Sei/ Bryde's whales	Minke whales	Sperm whales	
				Males	Females
Serie D (40—49°S) ..	510	2,537	—	2,569	1,234
Serie A (50—59°S) ..	559	1,039	92	288	—
Serie B (60—69°S) ..	219	812	7,451	789	—
Serie C (70—79°S) ..	—	2	170	47	—
	1,288	4,390 <sup>1)</sup>	7,713	3,693	1,234

The distribution of whales caught south of 40° South by areas was the following:

	Fin whales	Sei/ Bryde's whales	Minke whales	Sperm whales	
				Males	Females
Area II .....	199	3	176	443	118
Area III .....	424	391	1,698	147	—
Area IV .....	88	1,537	4,569	197	—
Area V .....	15	519	—	1,643	944
Area VI .....	402	814	13	589	172
Area I .....	160	1,126	1,257	674	—
	1,288	4,390 <sup>1)</sup>	7,713	3,693	1,234

<sup>1)</sup> Excluding 2 sei whales lost.

The average sizes (in English feet) of the different species and sexes of whales caught in different areas were the following:

	Fin whales			Sei whales			Minke whales			Sperm whales		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Area I .....	64.3	66.5	65.3	47.8	50.0	48.8	25.8	26.3	26.0	46.5	—	46.5
Area II .....	64.9	67.6	66.3	48.0	51.5	50.3	26.8	28.7	28.3	48.2	34.5	45.3
Area III .....	64.0	68.5	66.5	46.4	47.6	46.9	26.8	28.4	28.0	46.9	—	46.9
Area IV .....	61.0	62.8	61.9	46.6	47.6	47.0	26.8	27.8	27.4	47.6	—	47.6
Area V .....	62.8	61.7	62.3	46.5	47.9	47.2	—	—	—	42.6	34.8	39.7
Area VI .....	63.9	65.8	65.1	48.0	50.1	49.1	27.0	24.3	26.4	44.3	34.2	42.0
Total .....	63.9	66.8	65.5	47.1	48.8	47.9	26.5	27.8	27.3	44.7	34.7	42.2

Table a shows the catch and production, tables b and c catch by month, table d average size, table e whaling results for the various countries and table f the production of by-products. The five tables also include data for 1971/72 and 1972/73 seasons. Corresponding data for the seasons 1961/62—1970/71 will be found in publication No. LXVIII.

**Table a. - Pelagic whaling in the Antarctic.**

Years	Species of whales caught								Oil production Barrels	Expeditions	
	Blue	Fin	Hump-back	Sei/Bryde's	Minke	Sperm	Others	Total		Floating factories	Catchers
1971/72	—	2,683	3	5,456	3,021	3,366	—	14,529	387,064	7	89 <sup>1)</sup>
1972/73	7	1,761	5	3,864	5,745	4,203	—	15,585	345,539	7	82
1973/74	—	1,288	—	4,392	7,713	4,927	—	18,320	334,065	8	78

<sup>1)</sup> Including 1 combined floating factory/catcher.

**Table b. - Antarctic, pelagic whaling, Catch by months in absolute figures.**

Species of whales, and seasons		Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	Total	Total including lost whales
Total animals	} 1971/72 } 1972/73 } 1973/74	321 846 2,579	4,093 5,737 4,748	4,828 4,508 4,695	2,982 2,342 3,146	2,021 1,650 2,327	267 486 818	14,512 15,569 18,313	14,526 15,573 18,320
Fin whales	} 1971/72 } 1972/73 } 1973/74	— — —	153 89 172	604 225 329	1,061 1,148 601	861 299 174	4 — 11	2,683 1,761 1,287	2,683 1,761 1,288
Sei/Bryde's whales	} 1971/72 } 1972/73 } 1973/74	— — —	2,348 1,347 1,294	2,098 1,681 1,518	540 488 1,408	441 346 159	28 1 7	5,455 3,863 4,386	5,456 3,864 4,392
Minke whales	} 1971/72 } 1972/73 } 1973/74	105 604 2,501	1,195 3,453 2,656	1,031 1,687 1,539	675 — 900	13 — 117	— — —	3,019 5,744 7,713	3,021 5,745 7,713
Sperm whales	} 1971/72 } 1972/73 } 1973/74	216 242 78	397 848 626	1,095 915 1,309	706 706 237	706 1,005 1,877	235 485 <sup>1)</sup> 800	3,355 4,201 4,927	3,366 4,203 4,927

<sup>1)</sup> Including 48 in May.

**Table c. - Antarctic, pelagic whaling. Catch by months in percentage figures.**

Species of whales. Seasons	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	Total	Total including lost whales
Total animals } 1971/72	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
animals } .....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Fin } 1971/72	—	3.7	12.5	35.6	42.6	1.5	18.5	18.5
Whales } 1972/73	—	1.5	5.0	49.0	18.1	—	11.3	11.3
} 1973/74	—	3.6	7.0	19.1	7.5	1.3	7.0	7.0
Sei/Bryde's } 1971/72	—	57.4	43.5	18.1	21.8	10.5	37.6	37.6
whales } 1972/73	—	23.5	37.3	20.8	21.0	0.2	24.8	24.8
} 1973/74	—	27.3	32.3	44.8	6.8	0.9	24.0	24.0
Minke } 1971/72	32.7	29.2	21.4	22.6	0.7	—	20.8	20.8
whales } 1972/73	71.4	60.2	37.4	—	—	—	36.9	36.9
} 1973/74	97.0	55.9	32.8	28.6	5.0	—	42.1	42.1
Sperm } 1971/72	67.3	9.7	22.6	23.7	34.9	88.0	23.1	23.1
whales } 1972/73	28.6	14.8	20.3	30.2	60.9	99.8	27.0	27.0
} 1973/74	3.0	13.2	27.9	7.5	80.7	97.8	26.9	26.9

**Table d. - Average size of whales killed in the Antarctic, by species of whales.**

	Fin whales			Sei whales			Minke whales			Sperm whales		
	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet	Males Engl. feet	Fe- males Engl. feet	Total Engl. feet
1971/72 .....	64.3	67.0	65.7	46.4	47.9	47.1	27.3	28.5	28.0	45.0	37.5	44.7
1972/73 .....	64.7	67.7	66.2	46.9	48.2	47.5	26.3	27.1	26.7	45.1	34.8	44.3
1973/74 .....	63.9	66.8	65.5	47.1	48.8	47.9	26.5	27.8	27.3	44.7	34.7	42.2

**Table e. - Antarctic, pelagic whaling results for the various countries.**

	All countries			Japan			Norway			U.S.S.R.		
	Number of whales killed	Oil pro- duction	Catchers employed	Number of whales killed	Oil pro- duction	Catchers employed	Number of whales killed	Oil pro- duction	Catchers employed	Number of whales killed	Oil pro- duction	Catchers employed
1971/72 ..	14,529	387,064	89	8,711	159,610	41	3	36	1 <sup>1)</sup>	5,815	227,418	47
1972/73 ..	15,585	345,539	82	6,285	119,307	35	—	—	—	9,300	226,232	47
1973/74 ..	18,320	334,065	78	7,087	84,998	31	—	—	—	11,233	249,067	47

<sup>1)</sup> Combined catcher/floating factory.

**Table f. - Production of by-products in the Antarctic.**

Seasons Countries	Whale meat-meal, bone-meal, grax meal, guano	Whale liver or liver flakes	Liver oil Mill. units Vitamin A	Whale meat, blubber, ventral grooves	Whale solubles	Other products
	L. tons	L. tons		L. tons	L. tons	L. tons
1971/72 .....	13,397	1,791	1,253,000	104,438	1,574	1,211
1972/73 .....	13,423	1,516	1,915,000	87,384	1,624	12,216
1973/74						
Japan .....	299	—	—	61,602	1,723	180
U.S.S.R. ....	14,360	1,694	2,092,000	31,736	—	3,232
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>14,659</b>	<b>1,694</b>	<b>2,092,000</b>	<b>93,338</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>3,412</b>

## TABLES

Antarctic season 1973/74.

**Table 1. - Whaling results for the various countries in the Antarctic in the season 1973/74.****Pelagic whaling.**

Countries	Species of whales caught							Oil production. Barrels of 170 kg	Expeditions	
	Blue	Fin	Hump-back	Sei/Bryde's	Minke	Sperm	Total		Floating factories	Catchers
Japan .....	—	705	—	2,624	3,713	45	7,087	84,998	5	31
U.S.S.R. ....	—	583	—	1,768	4,000	4,882 <sup>1)</sup>	11,233	249,067	3	47
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,392</b>	<b>7,713</b>	<b>4,927</b>	<b>18,320</b>	<b>334,065</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>78</b>

<sup>1)</sup> In addition 48 killer whales and 4 bottlenoses were caught.**Table 2. — Average size of whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1973/74.****Pelagic whaling.**

Number of whales measured.		Expedition.	Average size.		
			Males.	Females.	Total.
<b>Fin whales.</b>			Engl. feet	Engl. feet	Engl. feet
Males 584	Total 1,287	No. 1	63.7	68.8	66.6
Females 703		" 2	64.6	67.4	66.1
		" 3	63.7	67.3	65.7
		" 4	64.5	66.3	65.3
		" 5	63.5	66.4	65.3
		" 6	63.6	64.9	64.3
		Average		63.9	66.8
<b>Sei whales.</b>					
Males 2,412	Total 4,388	No. 1	47.9	50.3	49.0
Females 1,976		" 2	47.7	49.9	48.7
		" 3	47.1	49.1	48.1
		" 4	47.2	48.7	48.0
		" 5	46.8	47.8	47.2
		" 6	46.5	47.5	46.9
		Average		47.1	48.8

Table No. 2 (continued).

Number of whales measured.	Expedition.	Average size.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
<b>Minke whales.</b> Males 2,958 } Females 4,755 } Total 7,713	No. 1	Engl. feet 27.2	Engl. feet 28.4	Engl. feet 27.9
	" 2	26.8	28.2	27.8
	" 3	26.5	27.5	27.1
	" 4	26.3	27.3	26.8
	" 5	27.0	24.3	26.4
	" 6	25.8	26.4	26.1
	Average		26.5	27.8
<b>Sperm whales.</b> Males 3,693 } Females 1,234 } Total 4,927	No. 1	47.4	34.5	45.8
	" 2	44.7	33.4	44.0
	" 3	46.2	35.1	43.7
	" 4	43.4	34.8	40.1
	Average		44.7	34.7

Table 3.—Whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1973/74, by species, sex and size.

## Pelagic whaling.

## Fin whales.

Engl. feet	Number of		Total	Engl. feet	Number of		Total
	males	females			males	females	
53	—	2	2	72	6	46	52
54	1	—	1	73	2	55	57
55	2	—	2	74	—	38	38
56	3	4	7	75	—	17	17
57	23	14	37	76	—	11	11
58	39	34	73	77	—	7	7
59	36	43	79	78	—	2	2
60	38	39	77	79	—	3	3
61	32	19	51				
62	32	23	55	Total	584	703	1,287
63	51	27	78				
64	40	36	76				
65	41	34	75				
66	75	56	131	Average size:	{ Males 63.9 feet		
67	61	38	99		{ Females 66.8 "		
68	40	33	73		{ Total 65.5 "		
69	31	38	69	Per cent:	{ Males 45.4		
70	22	39	61		{ Females 54.6		
71	9	45	54				

Table No. 3 (continued).

## Sei whales.

Engl. feet	Number of		Total	Engl. feet	Number of		Total
	males	females			males	females	
32	—	1	1	52	34	270	304
34	—	1	1	53	8	124	132
38	1	3	4	54	3	63	66
39	1	3	4	55	1	17	18
40	29	30	59	56	—	7	7
41	69	43	112	57	—	1	1
42	50	52	102				
43	111	67	178	Total	2,412	1,976	4,388
44	103	67	170				
45	171	76	247				
46	297	110	407	Average size: {	Males 47.1 feet		
47	410	160	570		Females 48.8 »		
48	459	183	642		Total 47.9 »		
49	319	208	527	Per cent: {	Males 55.0		
50	232	242	474		Females 45.0		
51	114	248	362				

## Minke whales.

Engl. feet	Number of		Total	Engl. feet	Number of		Total
	males	females			males	females	
16	—	2	2	31	8	298	306
17	2	2	4	32	—	37	37
18	2	2	4	33	—	3	3
19	4	6	10	38	—	1	1
20	9	19	28	Total	2,958	4,755	7,713
21	24	23	47				
22	44	57	101				
23	84	94	178				
24	182	180	362				
25	335	264	599	Average size: {	Males 26.5 feet		
26	620	415	1 035		Females 27.8 „		
27	778	718	1 496		Total 27.3 „		
28	580	938	1 518	Per cent: {	Males 38.4		
29	226	956	1 182		Females 61.6		
30	60	740	800				

Table No. 3 (continued).

## Sperm whales.

Engl. feet	Number of		Total	Engl. feet	Number of		Total
	males	females			males	females	
26	1	—	1	47	366	—	366
28	1	2	3	48	341	—	341
29	—	1	1	49	305	—	305
30	—	1	1	50	236	—	236
31	2	48	50	51	149	—	149
32	3	73	76	52	105	—	105
33	18	212	230	43	22	—	22
34	19	254	273	54	11	—	11
35	31	247	278	55	3	—	3
36	54	191	245	56	3	—	3
37	109	124	233				
38	130	64	194				
39	187	13	200				
40	220	3	223				
41	215	1	216				
42	184	—	184				
43	300	—	300				
44	200	—	200				
45	205	—	205				
46	273	—	273				
				Total	3,693	1,234	4,927
				Average size:	{ Males 44.7 feet		
					{ Females 34.7 "		
					{ Total 42.2 "		
				Per cent:	{ Males 75.0		
					{ Females 25.0		

Table 4.—Size of pregnant female whales caught in the Antarctic in the season 1973/74.

## Pelagic whaling.

Fin whales.<sup>1)</sup>

Length	Number of pregnant females	Length	Number of pregnant females	
59	1	72	29	
60	1	73	31	
61	1	74	24	
63	1	75	8	
64	11	76	8	
65	10	77	4	
66	24	78	2	
67	18	79	2	
68	19			
69	14	Total	255	
70	22			
71	25			

Number of fetuses measured ..... 255

<sup>1)</sup> Exclusive of 31 females with no information on pregnancy.

Sei whales.<sup>1)</sup>

Length	Number of pregnant females	Length	Number of pregnant females	
43	1	51	126	Number of foetuses measured ..... 784 of which twin pairs ..... 9 of which triplets ..... 1
44	6	52	144	
45	12	53	80	
46	29	54	39	
47	47	55	7	
48	83	56	2	
49	81			
50	116	Total	773	

<sup>1)</sup> Exclusive of 138 females with no information on pregnancy.

Minke whales.<sup>1)</sup>

Length	Number of pregnant females	Length	Number of pregnant females	
23	2	31	207	Number of foetuses measured ..... 2,651 of which twin pairs ..... 8
24	5	32	25	
25	18	33	1	
26	131	38	1	
27	401			
28	635	Total	2,643	
29	697			
30	520			

<sup>1)</sup> Exclusive of 832 females with no information on pregnancy.

Sperm whales.<sup>1)</sup>

Length	Number of pregnant females		
31	9		Number of foetuses measured ..... 295
32	13		
33	45		
34	56		
35	64		
36	55		
37	33		
38	15		
39	5		
Total	295		

<sup>1)</sup> Exclusive of 397 females with no information on pregnancy.

**Table 5.—Whale foetuses measured in the Antarctic in the season 1973/74, by species and groups of size, in each month.**

**Pelagic whaling.**

**Fin whale foetuses.**

Groups of size. Engl. feet	Dec.	Jan.	Febr.	March	April	Total
0'— 0' 11" .....	3	22	3	—	—	28
1'— 1' 11" .....	1	—	3	—	—	4
2'— 2' 11" .....	2	9	4	—	—	15
3'— 3' 11" .....	5	4	8	—	—	17
4'— 4' 11" .....	5	6	6	1	—	18
5'— 5' 11" .....	5	3	13	1	—	22
6'— 6' 11" .....	3	2	6	2	—	13
7'— 7' 11" .....	2	7	8	1	—	18
8'— 8' 11" .....	1	5	21	2	—	29
9'— 9' 11" .....	1	4	18	—	—	23
10'—10' 11" .....	—	6	11	—	—	17
11'—11' 11" .....	—	—	10	3	—	13
12'—12' 11" .....	—	2	12	2	—	16
13'—13' 11" .....	—	—	7	2	—	9
14'—14' 11" .....	—	—	2	1	—	3
15'—15' 11" .....	—	—	1	3	—	4
16'—16' 11" .....	—	—	—	3	—	3
17'—17' 11" .....	—	—	1	—	—	1
18'—18' 11" .....	—	—	1	—	—	1
19'—19' 11" .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
20'—20' 11" .....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total .....	28	70	135	21	1	255
Average size .....	4' 4"	4' 4"	8' 5"	11' 7"	20' 4"	7' 2"

**Sei whale foetuses.**

Groups of size. Engl. feet	Dec.	Jan.	Febr.	March	April	Total
0'— 0' 11" .....	17	10	3	—	—	30
1'— 1' 11" .....	2	2	1	—	—	5
2'— 2' 11" .....	19	6	3	—	—	28
3'— 3' 11" .....	31	8	10	—	—	49
4'— 4' 11" .....	63	23	12	—	—	98
5'— 5' 11" .....	91	43	19	—	—	153
6'— 6' 11" .....	23	38	27	2	—	90
7'— 7' 11" .....	8	50	29	1	—	88
8'— 8' 11" .....	1	31	76	6	—	114
9'— 9' 11" .....	1	8	62	3	—	74
10'—10' 11" .....	—	3	29	7	—	39
11'—11' 11" .....	—	1	5	3	—	9
12'—12' 11" .....	—	—	1	3	1	5
13'—13' 11" .....	—	—	1	—	—	1
14'—14' 11" .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
15'—15' 11" .....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total .....	256	223	278	25	2	784
Average size .....	4' 6"	6' 2"	7' 10"	9' 9"	14' 0"	6' 4"

Table No. 5 (continued).

## Minke whale fetuses.

Groups of size. Engl. feet	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Febr.	March	Total
0'— 0' 11" .....	488	598	236	54	3	1,379
1'— 1' 11" .....	139	263	261	118	4	785
2'— 2' 11" .....	15	79	131	89	2	316
3'— 3' 11" .....	—	10	49	37	1	97
4'— 4' 11" .....	—	3	10	19	3	35
5'— 5' 11" .....	—	—	3	7	1	11
6'— 6' 11" .....	1	—	—	1	—	2
7'— 7' 11" .....	2	2	—	—	—	4
8'— 8' 11" .....	4	7	1	1	—	13
9'— 9' 11" .....	2	3	3	—	—	8
10'—10' 11" .....	—	1	—	—	—	1
Total .....	651	966	694	326	14	2,651
Average size .....	0' 8"	0' 11"	1' 6"	2' 0"	2' 3"	1' 2"

## Sperm whale fetuses.

Groups of size. Engl. feet	Jan.	March	April	Total
0'— 0' 11" .....	57	45	3	105
1'— 1' 11" .....	2	20	1	23
2'— 2' 11" .....	—	24	1	25
3'— 3' 11" .....	—	3	—	3
4'— 4' 11" .....	—	10	1	11
5'— 5' 11" .....	—	8	—	8
6'— 6' 11" .....	2	—	—	2
7'— 7' 11" .....	5	1	—	6
8'— 8' 11" .....	3	4	—	7
9'— 9' 11" .....	13	6	—	19
10'—10' 11" .....	21	12	—	33
11'—11' 11" .....	19	7	—	26
12'—12' 11" .....	16	8	—	24
13'—13' 11" .....	1	2	—	3
Total .....	139	150	6	295
Average size .....	6' 1"	4' 0"	1' 4"	4' 11"

**Table 6.—Whale fetuses measured in the Antarctic in the season 1973/74, by species and sex, in each month.**

**Pelagic whaling.**

	Number of		Sex not determined	Total	Number of males per 100 females
	males	females			
<b>Fin whale fetuses.</b>					
December .....	11	15	2	28	73
January .....	31	17	22	70	182
February .....	68	65	2	135	105
March .....	13	8	—	21	163
April .....	—	1	—	1	—
Total .....	123	106	26	255	116
<b>Sei whale fetuses.</b>					
December .....	125	113	18	256	111
January .....	117	98	8	223	119
February .....	140	135	3	278	104
March .....	12	13	—	25	92
April .....	1	1	—	2	100
Total .....	395	360	29	784	110
<b>Minke whale fetuses.</b>					
November .....	247	254	150	651	97
December .....	380	437	149	966	87
January .....	324	357	13	694	91
February .....	157	163	6	326	96
March .....	5	7	2	14	71
Total .....	1,113	1,218	320	2,651	91
<b>Sperm whale fetuses.</b>					
January .....	50	43	46	139	116
March .....	63	48	39	150	131
April .....	1	2	3	6	50
Total .....	114	93	88	295	123

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