

Log 11 Monday

1. 122100Z September 2005
2. Position: Lat: 0-30.0N LONG 140-00.0W
3. Course: On station
4. Speed: 0 kts
5. Distance: 29.8 NM
6. Steaming Time: 3H 36M
7. Station Time: 20H 24M
8. Fuel: 2030 gals
9. Sky: Ptly Cldy; Cu
10. Wind: 100-T, 15 kts
11. Sea: 100-T, 2-3 ft
12. Swell: 110-T, 3-5 ft
13. Barometer: 1012.1 mb
14. Temperature: Air: 26.0 C, Sea: 25.7 C
15. Equipment Status: No change.
16. Comments: On station #7.

MASTER, R/V ROGER REVELLE

Busy day today, casts started at 1am. I wanted to show you what the scientists are doing with the plankton after they get them from the CTDs. They have tanks that look like aquariums at the stern of the ship and they are being filled with seawater that is pumped from over the side. The water is constantly being pumped into the tanks and then out over the side. The plankton are put in bottles and the bottles are anchored in the "incubators". You can see in the pictures that many of the incubators are covered by dark plastic or screen shade material. This is because they are trying to imitate the same conditions these plankton live under (light levels). The incubators provide the right water temperature. Some of the experiments last a few hours and some up to a day. Then they are taken to the lab and filtered and analyzed. I will discuss the analysis later. Before they are put into the incubators, some of them will have nutrients added, iron, silica, or germanium (a radioactive tracer). They are looking at individual effects of limiting or augmenting these things on the growth rates of the phytoplankton.



Mark and Janice checking the incubators



This is the one that is simulating surface light conditions, notice the bottles inside the incubator



Chief Engineer doing his part.



Pete the cook and a beautiful Mahi Mahi



Chief Mate Ian Lawrence and his 2 albacore

We made it all the way to the equator tonight at about dusk. We stopped at a TAO buoy. Below is the type of data provided by the TAO buoys. They are a series of buoys located along the equator collection sea surface temp and wind and current direction. For more info go to: <http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/tao/>

The crew were very excited to get to the TAO buoy at dusk as fish congregate around any floating object in the open ocean and buoys are some of the best places to find fish. (Ask any fisherman and they will tell you!) Well we hit the big one. There were dozens and dozens of mahi mahi and albacore (a species of tuna) and we got some yellowtail. Here are pictures of the “Great Fish Slaughter of 05” Good Dinner tomorrow!!!! Sushi anyone?????