

Report on Fisheries Officers' Course 1974

1.0 Introduction

1974-2

The course was conducted in Brisbane in the Government Training Centre, Queensland Executive Building, George Street, Brisbane from 8 to 25 October, 1974 inclusive. It was attended by twenty four students (see Appendix 1) who represented all States, with the exception of Western Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Department of Agriculture. Lecturers (see Appendix 2) were drawn, for their expertise on the subjects covered, from various Australian and State government bodies and from Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Limited.

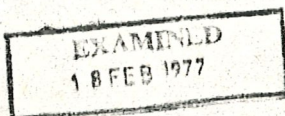
1.1 Course Objectives

The course aimed to give field officers a much wider understanding of the role of government in fisheries, a role in which research, economics, technology, legislation and administration are woven into the theme of fisheries management. This, in turn, would hopefully allow field officers to act as field extension officers and to answer questions relating to government's activity in the fisheries.

1.2 Pre-Course Exercise

Prior to the commencement of the course each student prepared a diagrammatic structure or chart, in duplicate, illustrating the management of a fishery by a hypothetical government department. The diagram was required to show the relationship between each section within the department and the level of responsibility attributed to each section. In addition, the various related factors which influence the management decision were to be shown. Each diagram was required to be accompanied, in duplicate, by a description of about 250 words.

1.2.1 Object of Pre-Course Exercise At the commencement of the course, one copy of the diagram and accompanying description was handed in and the other retained by the student. As the course proceeded, the original concept was to be revised as each student saw fit so that, at the completion of the course, a comparison between the original and final concept could be used for assessment purposes.



2.0 Course Program

The course program (see Appendix 2) consisted mainly of lectures on fisheries management; selected fisheries were examined with the emphasis being placed on research into and management of those fisheries. Closely linked to the management lectures were several other lectures : report writing, public relations, navigation, fishing vessel recognition, electronic fishing aids, practical biology, case histories. Most lecture sessions were followed by group discussions or practical demonstrations.

2.1 Excursions

Three excursions were arranged:

- 2.1.1 Queensland Fish Board This incorporated a conducted tour of the plant pointing out the various activities such as the auctioning of fish, processing, storage facilities and the prawn cutlet preparation and packaging equipment. The tour was followed by an address by the General Manager, Mr W. Murray and a film.
- 2.1.2 Wellington Point Considerable preparation was undertaken by Mr V.A. Curtis to enable the students to study berthed fishing vessels and their gear also the operation of a tunnel net. Unfortunately adverse weather cancelled the latter and the days activities were restricted accordingly.
- 2.1.3 Sea World, Southport This was the only organised weekend activity. It was an enjoyable as well as informative excursion which included a tour of the Gold Coast, taking in an inspection of the prawn trawlers berthed at Southport and then on to Sea World as guests of the proprietors - a most enjoyable luncheon was generously paid for by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries.

3.0 Course Proper

The standard of lectures was high and the expertise of all lecturers was evident by the way in which they handled questions and discussion on the most complex problems. Many students commented on how fortunate they were in having lecturers of such a high calibre to address them.

3.1 Course Venue

The lecture and syndicate rooms were comfortable and all the requisite teaching aids were readily available.

3.2 Course Papers

Unfortunately, not all lecturers were able to provide papers on their subjects. However, those that were able, provided papers of a very high standard.

3.3 Student Participation

The class was divided into four syndicates and each student was given the responsibility, on a rotation basis, of chairing and reporting on the conclusions of his particular syndicate. The latter exercise took the form of questioning and summarising the day's lectures at the plenary session which followed immediately after the syndicate discussions.

3.3.1 Student Conduct All students had a positive attitude towards the course and were attentive and on time, unless there was a justifiable cause, at all sessions.

3.3.2 Course Project All students satisfactorily completed the course project. In many cases there was evidence of hard work, initiative and originality.

3.3.3 Certificate All students have been assessed on the basis of class performance and the development of their projects. It is considered that they are all deserving of a certificate to mark their successful completion of the course.

4.0 Course Analysis

The traditional method of assessing student achievement at the completion of a course, has been, and still is, by examination - written, oral or practical or any combination of the three methods. Too often there is insufficient consideration given to:

- (a) how effective the course structure was,
- (b) previous knowledge of individual students, or
- (c) whether the lecturers were competent in terms of knowledge of subject matter and delivery.

In addition to the preceding, it is virtually impossible for an examiner to be completely objective when he knows the candidates and hence there must be an element of bias in his judgment.

4.1 Method Used

In view of the varying background of students attending the course in terms of education, training and experience, it was decided to devise some new and more informative concept whereby the student assessed his own level of achievement.

4.1.1 Achievement Graph At the commencement of the course each student was given a sheet of graph paper entitled 'Achievement Graph'. The graph was graduated from 0 to 70 units on the 'Performance Level' axis and from 0 to 14 days on the 'Time' axis. Each student was asked to grade his daily increase in level of understanding between 0 and 5 units, viz:

- 0 nil
- 1 minimal
- 2 partial
- 3 significant
- 4 good
- 5 excellent

On the first day, the units credited by the student were plotted against day one for subsequent days, the credited units were added to the total for the previous day and plotted accordingly.

4.1.2 Reaction Form During the course each student was requested to complete a questionnaire which related to the subject coverage, presentation and relevance of each session.

4.2 Result of Analysis

Appendices 3,4,5 and 6 are graphical representations of the course analysis and information may be extracted as follows:

- (a) general appraisal of course effectiveness,
- (b) an indication of optimum treatment level of the subject matter, and
- (c) an indication of irrelevant, too simple or too difficult subject matter and/or poor lecturer performance.

4.3 Conclusion

There is ample evidence to indicate that the course achieved its objectives and that, to varying degrees, each student improved his understanding of fisheries management.

The course's shortcomings were highlighted and consequently any future course of this type may benefit accordingly. The unstated objective of having a national course so that each student could benefit from the interchange of ideas with his contemporaries from other parts of Australia may also be said to have been achieved.

5.0 Acknowledgements

The invaluable assistance of the Director and staff of the Fisheries Branch of the Queensland Department of Primary Industries is acknowledged as is the involvement of all lecturers and the co-operation of all students.

H.E. ROGERS
Course Convenor

LIST OF STUDENTS

NAME	DESIGNATION	DEPARTMENT
C.R. ABBOTT	Inspector	Department of Agriculture, Tasmania
F.J. ALEXANDER	Inspector of Fisheries Grade I	Department of Fisheries, S.A.
W. BRINSLEY	Senior Inspector	Fisheries Branch, Chief Secretary's Department, N.S.W.
R. BURBURY	Technical Assistant	Fisheries & Wildlife Division, Victoria
M.G. BURT	Inspector of Fisheries Grade I	Department of Fisheries, S.A.
R. CHARLTON	Inspector	Department of Agriculture, Tasmania
D. COLLINS	Investigation Officer	Northern Fisheries Unit, Australian Department of Agriculture
J. DEAN	District Inspector	Fisheries Branch, Chief Secretary's Department, N.S.W.
G. DIMMOCK	District Inspector	Fisheries Branch, Chief Secretary's Department, N.S.W.
W. DOCHERTY	Patrol Officer Grade II Mackay	Small Craft Control Branch, Department of Harbours & Marine, Queensland
C. EAGLETON	Inspector	Northern Territory
D.A. FERRETT	Inspector of Fisheries Grade I	Department of Fisheries, S.A.
R. HASTHORPE	Fisheries & Wildlife Officer	Fisheries & Wildlife Division, Victoria
R. HOLBERT	District Inspector	Fisheries Branch, Chief Secretary's Department, N.S.W.
J. IRVINE	District Inspector	Fisheries Branch, Chief Secretary's Department, N.S.W.
R. JACKSON	Fisheries & Wildlife Officer	Fisheries & Wildlife Division, Victoria
G. KUCERANS	Technical Assistant	Fisheries & Wildlife Division, Victoria
W.J. MIDDLETON	Investigation Officer	Northern Fisheries Unit, Australian Department of Agriculture
R. MILLS	District Inspector	Fisheries Branch, Chief Secretary's Department, N.S.W.

List of Students continued.

NAME	DESIGNATION	DEPARTMENT
R. PIETSCH	Fisheries & Wildlife Officer	Fisheries & Wildlife Division, Victoria
G. SACAGIO	Patrol Officer Grade II Cairns	Small Craft Control Branch, Department of Harbours and Marine, Queensland
R.D. TAYLOR	Inspector of Fisheries Grade I	Department of Fisheries, S.A.
J. WILSON	Patrol Officer Grade II Brisbane	Small Craft Control Branch, Department of Harbours and Marine, Queensland
L. WOCKNER	Patrol Officer Grade II Townsville	Small Craft Control Branch, Department of Harbours and Marine, Queensland

PROGRAM

Tuesday 8.10.74

- 11.00 a.m. Orientation Address - Mr H.E. Rogers
 12.30 p.m. Opening Address - Hon. V.B. Sullivan, M.L.A.
 2.30 p.m. 1.1 Human Institutions and Needs - Mr G.G.T. Harrison
 3.15 p.m. 1.2 Socio-Political Considerations - Mr J.C. Wharton
 4.15 p.m. Close
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Wednesday 9.10.74

- 9.00 a.m. 2.1 The Province of Fisheries Management
 - Mr J.C. Wharton
 10.15 a.m. 2.2 Fisheries Management - Mr G.G.T. Harrison
 11.15 a.m. 2.3 The Nature and Techniques of Fisheries Management
 - Mr J.C. Wharton
 1.00 p.m. Group Discussion - Fisheries Management
 3.45 p.m. Summary
 4.15 p.m. Close
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Thursday 10.10.74

- 9.00 a.m. 3.1 Economic Considerations - Mr M.A.Q. Sturman
 10.00 a.m. 3.2 Biological Considerations - Dr G. Murphy
 11.00 a.m. Group Discussion
 12.00 p.m. Summary
 1.15 p.m. Films
 4.45 p.m. Close
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Friday 11.10.74

- 9.00 a.m. 4.1 Finance - Mr M.A.Q. Sturman
 10.15 a.m. 4.2 Fact Finding - Mr M.A.Q. Sturman
 11.15 a.m. 4.3 Report Writing - Mr J. Wrigley
 1.00 p.m. Practical - Report Writing
 2.00 p.m. 4.4 Group Discussion - Public Relations - Mr R. Collard
 3.45 p.m. Summary
 4.15 p.m. Close
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Monday 14.10.74

- 9.00 a.m. 5.1 Regulation and Enforcement - Mr D. Macdonald
 1.00 p.m. 5.2 Group Discussion - Role of Fisheries Officer
 3.45 p.m. Summary - Mr D. Macdonald
 4.15 p.m. Close
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Program continued.

Tuesday 15.10.74

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| 9.00 a.m. | 6.1 | Navigation - Mr H.E. Rogers |
| 1.00 p.m. | 6.2 | Practical - Navigation - Mr H.E. Rogers |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |

Wednesday 16.10.74

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| 8.30 a.m. | 7.1 | Visit to Queensland Fish Board - Mr W. Murray |
| 9.00 a.m. | 7.2 | Fish Handling - Mr W. Murray |
| 1.00 p.m. | 7.3 | Practical Biology - Mr N. Haysom |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |

Thursday 17.10.74

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| 9.30 a.m. | 8.1 | Bus Excursion - Recognition of Fishing Vessel Types
- Mr V. Curtis |
| 1.00 p.m. | 8.2 | Nets - Mr V. Curtis |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |

Friday 18.10.74

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| 9.00 a.m. | 9.1 | Fishing Industry Organisations - Mr G.G.T. Harrison |
| 10.15 a.m. | 9.2 | The Fisheries Department and its Relationship
to Other Government Departments
- Mr A. Dunbavin-Butcher |
| 11.15 a.m. | 9.3 | The Australian Fisheries Council - Mr P. Ryan |
| 1.00 p.m. | | Group Discussion - Socio-Political Influences |
| 3.45 p.m. | | Summary |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |

Monday 21.10.74

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| 9.00 a.m. | 10.1 | International Co-operation in the Management of
Common Use Resources - Mr P. Ryan |
| 10.15 a.m. | 10.2 | Man and Nature - Mr M.L.C. Dredge |
| 11.15 a.m. | 10.3 | Australian Fishing Industry Council - Mr D. McGroarty |
| 1.00 p.m. | | Group Discussion - International and Local
Industry Co-operation |
| 3.45 p.m. | | Summary |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |
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Program continued.

Tuesday 22.10.74

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| 9.00 a.m. | 11.1 | Electronic Fishing Aids - Mr G.R. Owen |
| 1.00 p.m. | 11.2 | Group Discussion - Safety at Sea - Mr H.E. Rogers
Capt. O Bayer
Capt. D. Robinson
Mr R.L. Stevenson |
| 3.45 p.m. | | Summary |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |
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Wednesday 23.10.74

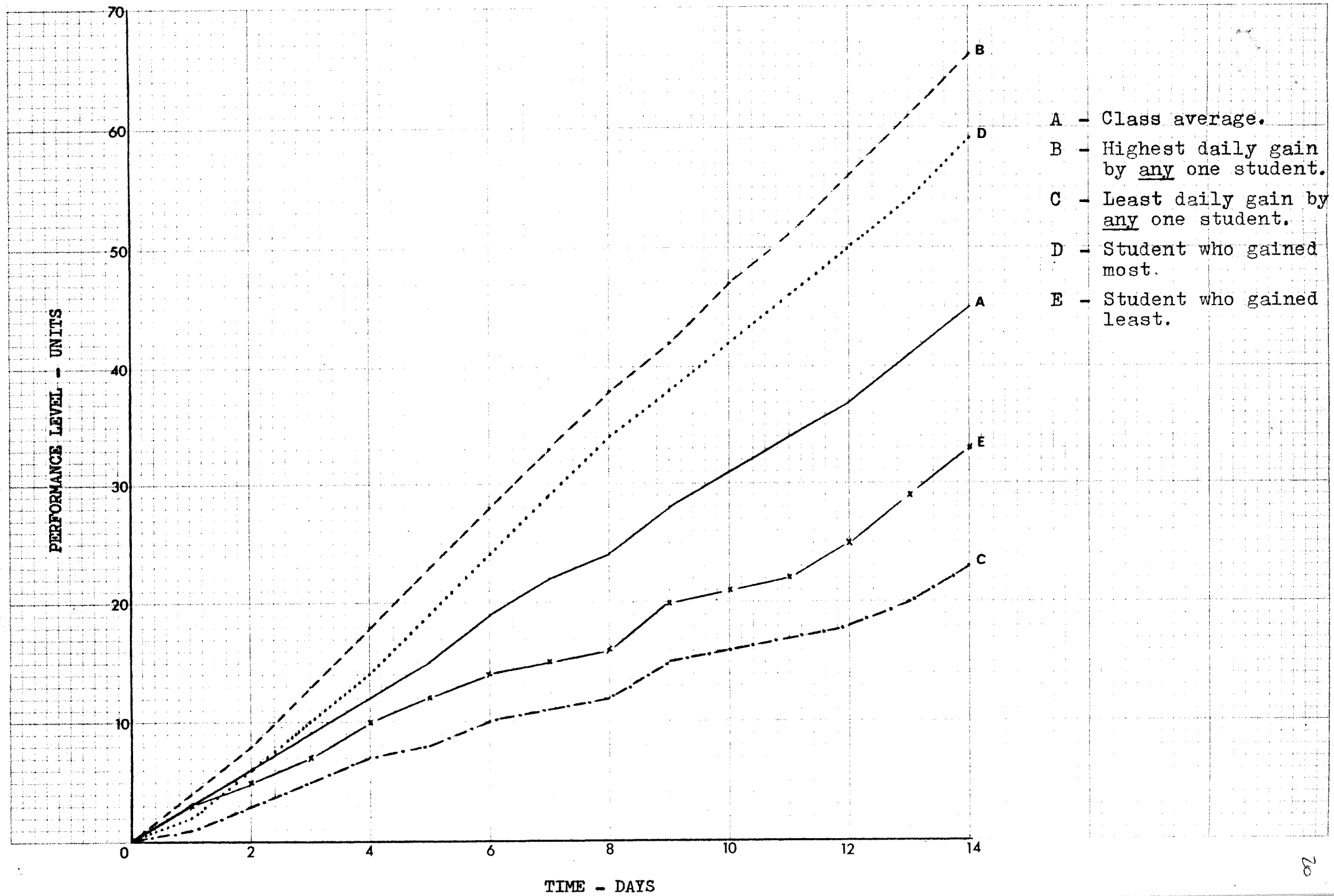
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| 9.00 a.m. | 12.1 | Technological Considerations - Mr M Sanders |
| 1.00 p.m. | 12.2 | International Collision Regulations - Mr H.E. Rogers |
| 4.15 p.m. | | Close |
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Thursday 24.10.74

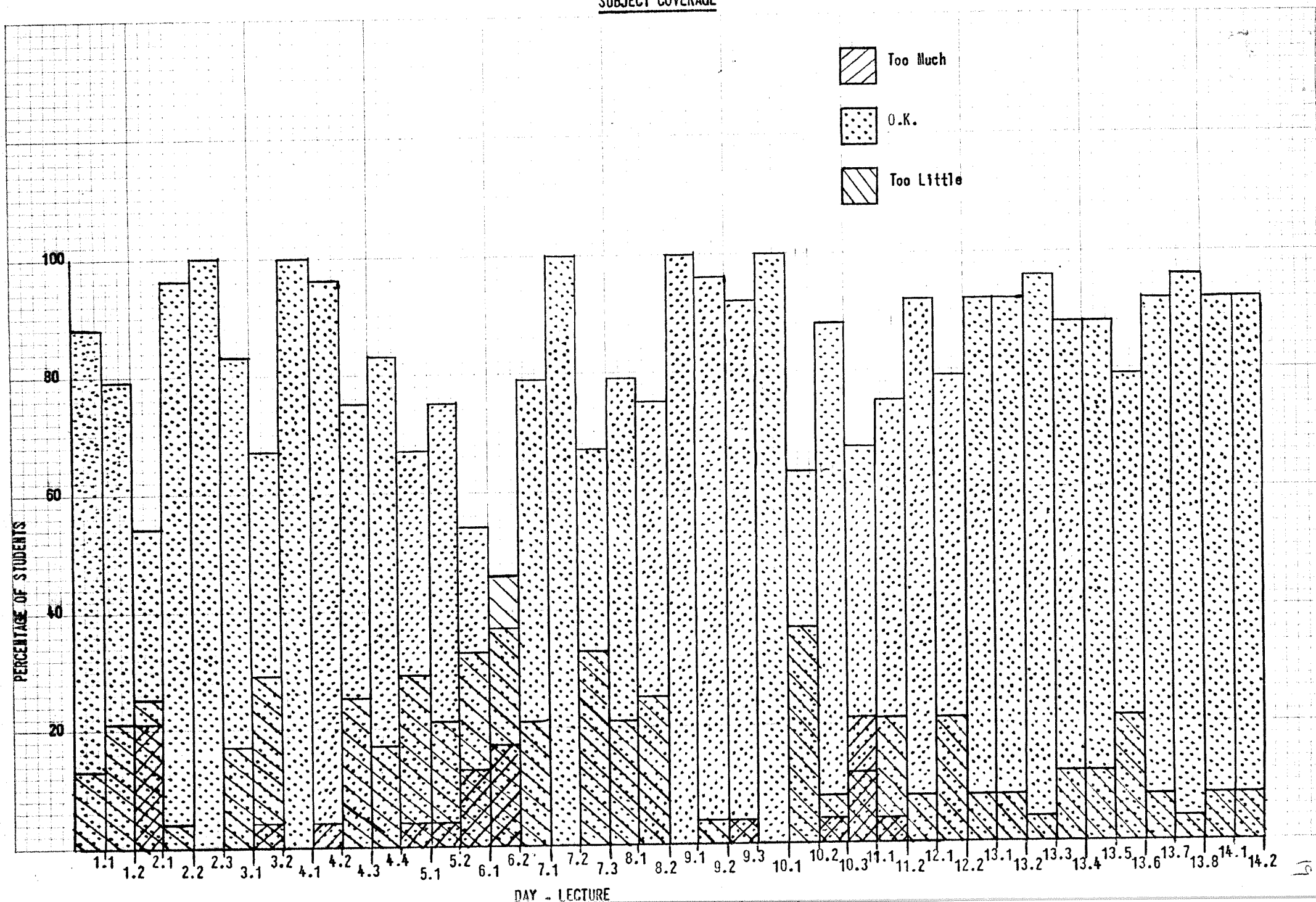
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| 9.00 a.m. | 13.1 | Abalone Fishery - Mr S. Shepherd |
| 9.40 a.m. | 13.2 | Scallop Fisheries - Mr M. Sanders |
| 10.40 a.m. | 13.3 | Estuarine and Bay Fisheries - Mr N. Haysom |
| 11.20 a.m. | 13.4 | Eastcoast Trawl Fishery - Dr D. Kurth |
| 12.00 p.m. | 13.5 | Tuna Fishery - Dr K. Radway Allen |
| 1.20 p.m. | 13.6 | Whaling - Dr K. Radway Allen |
| 2.00 p.m. | 13.7 | Gulf Prawn Fishery - Mr N. Haysom |
| 3.00 p.m. | 13.8 | Shark Fishery - Mr M. Sanders |
| 3.40 p.m. | | Group Discussion |
| 5.00 p.m. | | Close |
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Friday 25.10.74

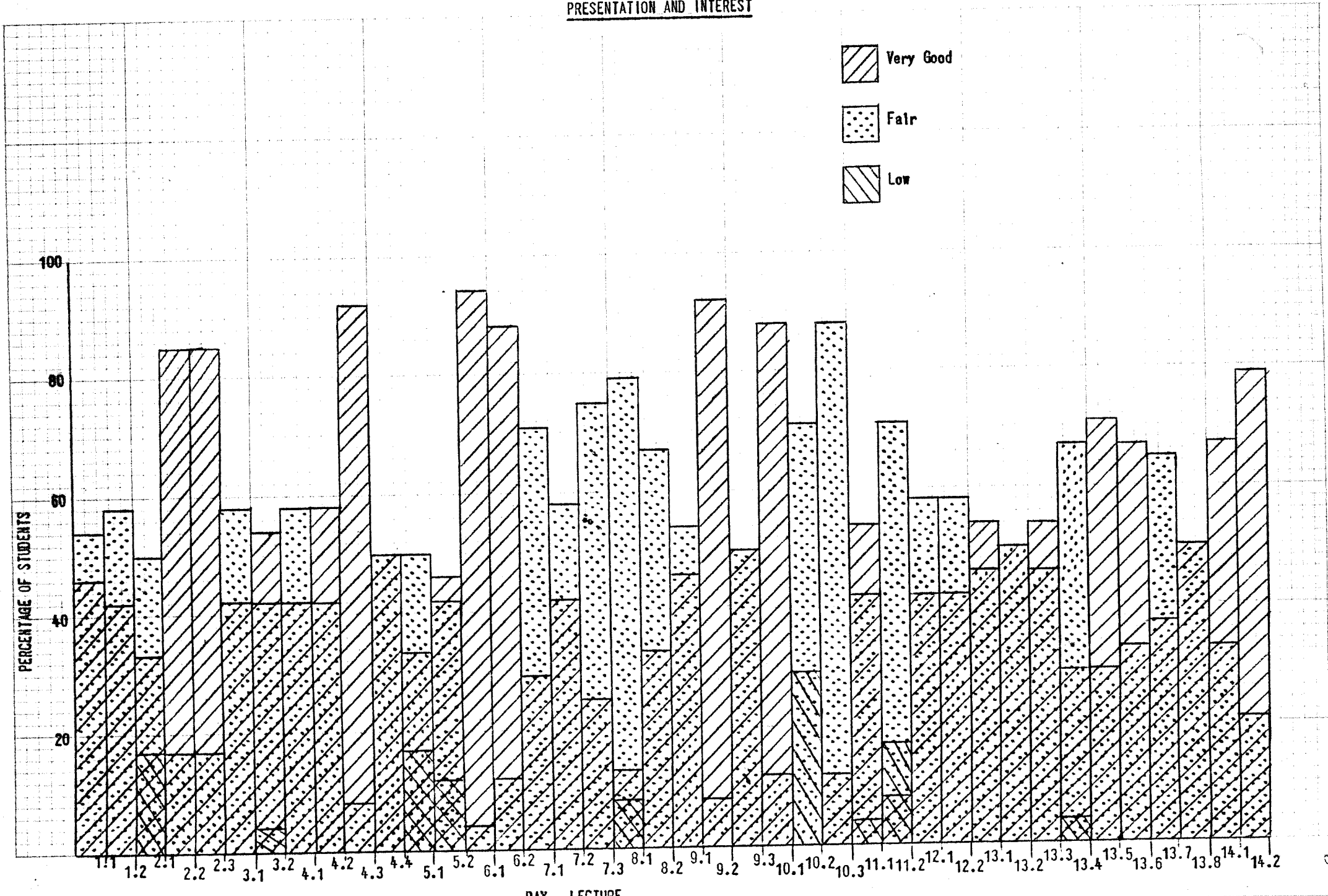
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| 8.30 a.m. | 14.1 | Foreign Fishing Vessel Activity - Mr R. Cheatley |
| 9.30 a.m. | 14.2 | Case Histories - Commonwealth Law - Mr J. Jerks |
| 1.00 p.m. | | Close |
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ACHIEVEMENT GRAPH

SUBJECT COVERAGE



PRESENTATION AND INTEREST



SESSION RELEVANCE

