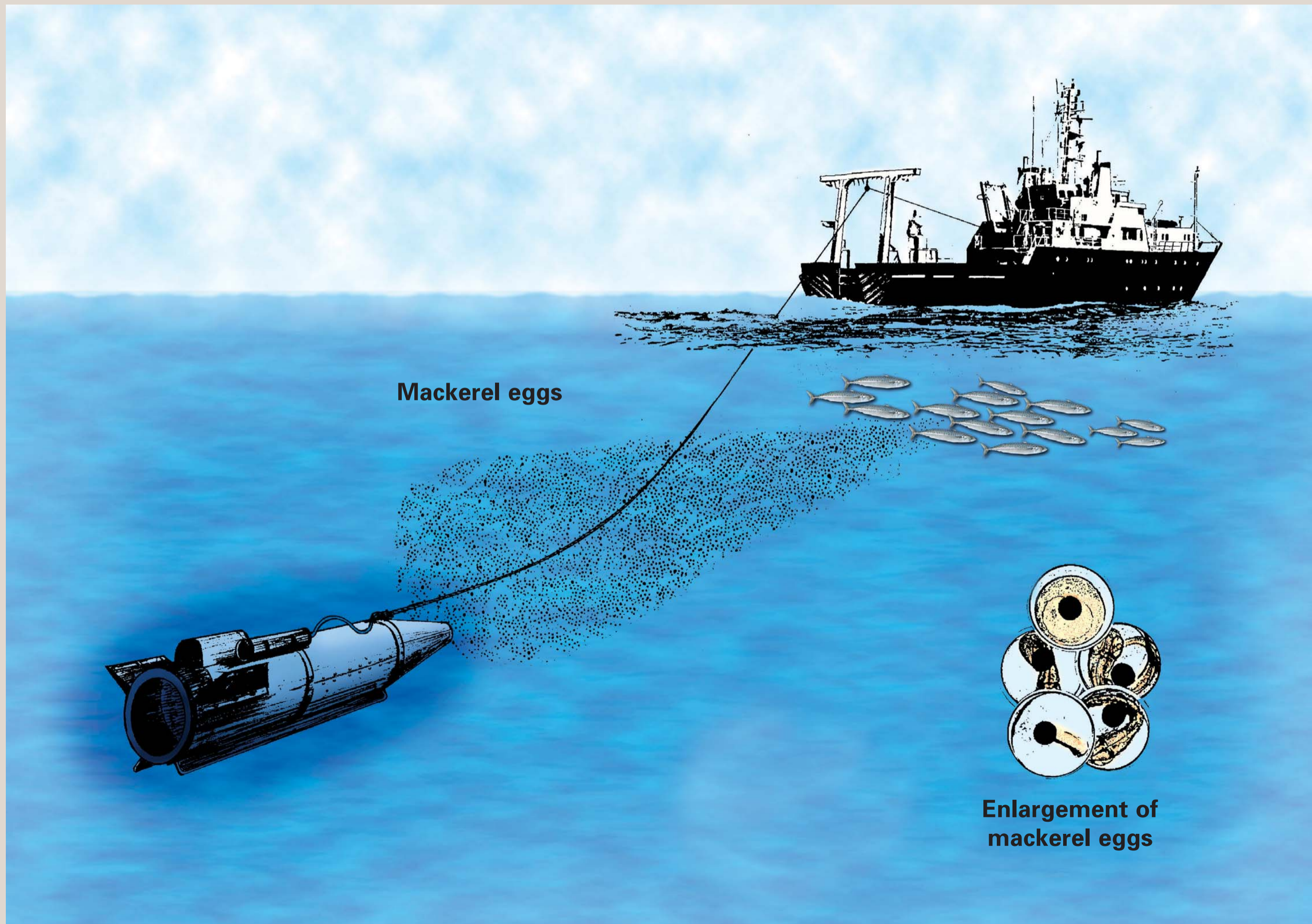


# stock assessment by egg survey (western mackerel)



Mackerel eggs

Enlargement of  
mackerel eggs

Egg surveys provide a method of stock assessment independent of catch data. The stock assessment of western mackerel is a good example.

Sampling through the spawning season provides an estimate of the total number of eggs produced.

The spawning stock size can then be calculated, provided the number of eggs produced by a mature female and sex ratio are known.