

## TOHEROAS

The recovery of the toheroa beds on Ninety-mile Beach from the mortality of several years ago is disappointingly slow.

A detailed survey of the toheroa stocks on Muriwai Beach formed part of the general programme of maintaining a close watch on the welfare of this fishery.

Particular attention was paid to the northern half of the beach, where the stocks are heaviest. In the course of this work over 12,000 toheroa were measured and grouped according to size. The result indicated that, while the stock was in a healthy condition with a balanced proportion of growing sizes, it was nevertheless insufficient to permit of commercial exploitation.

## MUSSELS

The catch of mussels in the Thames-Coromandel-Auckland area showed a rise this year as compared with last year's figure. The grounds are still holding well, though on two occasions the quality of the mussels varied somewhat, but have picked up again now.

The table below shows the catch of mussels over the past five years:—

|                             | 1943-44. | 1944.  | 1945.  | 1946.  | 1947.  |
|-----------------------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                             | Sacks.   | Sacks. | Sacks. | Sacks. | Sacks. |
| Total quantity landed .. .. | 16,741   | 15,390 | 13,156 | 10,568 | 16,261 |

## WHITEBAIT FISHERY, 1947 SEASON

The table given below summarizes the information obtained from the principal whitebait-fishing centres for the 1947 season:—

*Whitebait Fishery, 1947 Season*

| District.                 | Principal Rivers fished for which Returns were received.                                                                                                                                                | Best Period.  | Number of Fishermen (Approximately). |         | Total Quantity caught (Approximately). |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------|
|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               | Regular.                             | Casual. |                                        |
|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               |                                      |         | Cwt.                                   |
| Auckland ..               | Waikato, Paeroa .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                                 | Sept. ..      | 127                                  | 70      | 887                                    |
| Bay of Plenty ..          | Kaituna, Tarawera, Rangitaiki .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                   | Aug.-Sept. .. | 8                                    | 54      | 115                                    |
| Hawke's Bay ..            | Tukituki, Ngaruroro .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                             | Oct. ..       | 50                                   | 50      | 22                                     |
| Wairarapa ..              | Lake Onoke .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                                      | Oct. ..       | 4                                    | 10      | 4                                      |
| Wellington ..             | Waikanae, Wainmaha, Mangone, Otaki, Waiotahu, Ohau, Hokio, Manawatu .. .. .                                                                                                                             | Oct.-Nov. ..  | 50                                   | 50      | 108                                    |
| Marlborough ..            | Wairau, Omaka, Opawa .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                            | Oct. ..       | 6                                    | ..      | 100                                    |
| North Canterbury ..       | Hurunui, Waipara .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                                | Oct. ..       | ..                                   | 7       | 8                                      |
| Christchurch ..           | Saltwater Creek, Ashley, Waimakariri, Styx, Avon, Selwyn .. .. .                                                                                                                                        | Oct. ..       | 53                                   | 99      | 145                                    |
| South Canterbury ..       | Rakaia, Ashburton, Orari, Tenuka, Opihi, Rangitata, Pareora, Waitaki (north bank) .. .. .                                                                                                               | Oct. ..       | 29                                   | 55      | 97                                     |
| Otago ..                  | Molyneux, Taieri, Puerua, Waipori, Kakanui, Shag, Tokomairiro, Owaia, Waikonati, Catlins, Pleasant, Waimakariri, Waitaki (south bank) .. .. .                                                           | Sept.-Oct. .. | 34                                   | 54      | 116                                    |
| Southland ..              | Mataura, Oreti, Titiroa, Otakou, Aparima, Makarewa, Waihoppai, Waiau, Waikiwi, Duck Creek, Pourakino and Onihi, Waimatuku, Waikawa, Tokonui .. .. .                                                     | Sept.-Oct. .. | 46                                   | 61      | 315                                    |
| West Coast—<br>Wataroa .. | Big Wanganui, Little Wanganui, Wataroa, Waitangi, Okarito, Waikukupa, Cook, Saltwater, Karangarua, Jacobs, Mahitahi, Paringa, Blue, Waiaita, Haast, Okuru, Turnbull, Waitoto, Arawhata, Cascade .. .. . | Oct.-Nov. ..  | 226                                  | 7       | 2,568                                  |
| Ross ..                   | Totara, Waitaha, Mikonui .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                        | Oct.-Nov. ..  | 21                                   | 21      | 310                                    |
| Hokitika ..               | Arahura, Three-mile, Hokitika, Mahinapua .. .. .                                                                                                                                                        | Oct.-Nov. ..  | 208                                  | 5       | 552                                    |
| Greymouth ..              | Grey, New, Teremakau .. .. .                                                                                                                                                                            | Oct.-Nov. ..  | 53                                   | 80      | 452                                    |
| Westport ..               | Karamea, Little Wanganui, Mokihinui, Granity, Fair-down, Orawaiti, Buller, Big Totara, Little Totara .. .. .                                                                                            | Oct.-Nov. ..  | 72                                   | 240     | 1,257                                  |
|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               |                                      |         | 7,056                                  |