

Do grey seals use above water stimuli in foraging?

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Objective

- investigate possible use of sense of smell in the foraging behaviour of grey seals
- the experiment expectation: the highest frequency of baits taken from attractive buoys

Methods

- twelve sphere shaped buoys
- three treatments:
 - perforated attractive PA (salmon oil)
 - perforated repellent PR (seal oil)
 - perforated control PC (no scent)

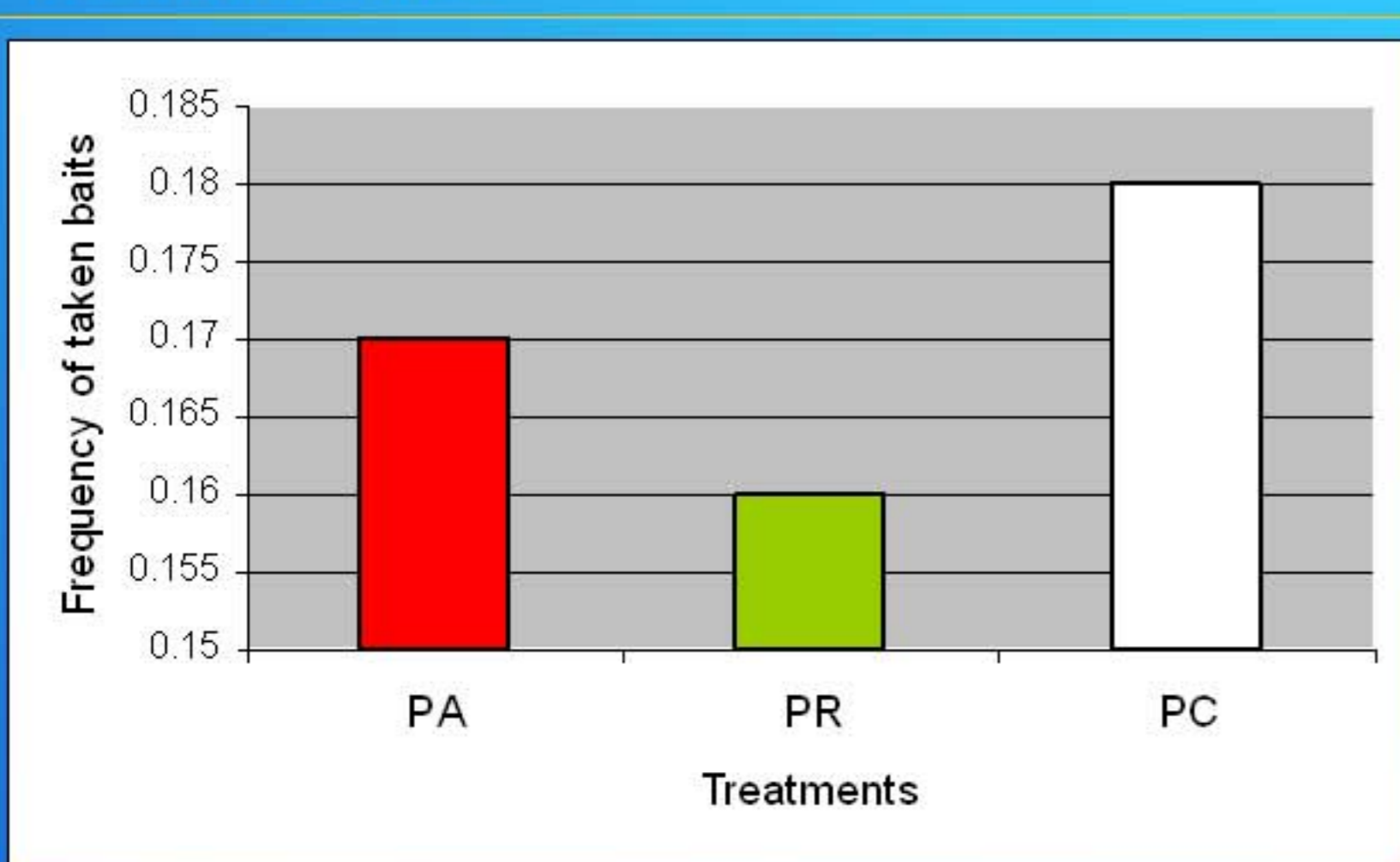
Conclusion

the smell is of minor importance in the foraging behaviour of grey seals



Results

- the frequency of taken baits almost no different between treatments



- successfully taken pictures from underwater cameras prove that the baits were taken by seals



- the buoys connected to:
 - the setups with disposable photo cameras
 - the setups without photo cameras



Legend:

- 1 - pulley
- 2 - plastic pipe
- 3 - disposable camera