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The diamond-shaped motifs have a diagonal bar above them. I liken these to crab pots being hauled. The tow (the rope) is attached at the corner, so when pot is lifted it rises by being lifted from a corner – just like this pattern.



Test swatch by Val Smith. Frangipani 5-ply, 2 mm double pointed needles.

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*Sampler by Val Smith 34 cm x 34 cm. Frangipani
5-ply, 2 mm double pointed needles*

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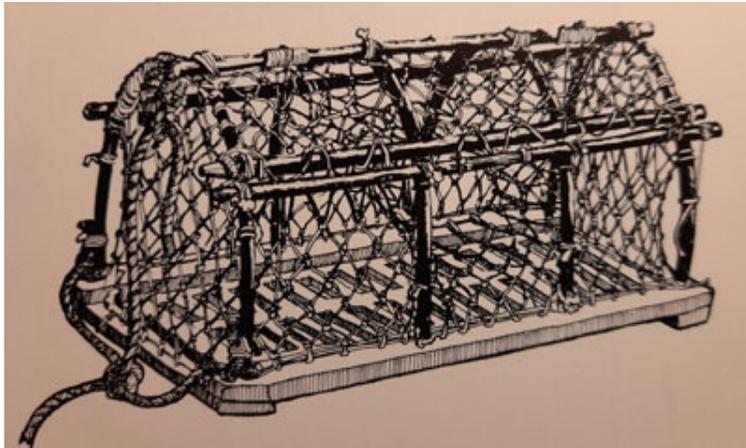
Estimate of the tension

By comparison with the eyes (iris diameter, pupillary distance) the tension is estimated to be 12 stitches per inch. There are 16 meshes up the yoke, each 14 stitches tall. $16 \times 14 = 224$ rounds, which, at 17 rows per inch gives a yoke height of 13 inches. This about as big as yokes gets and, in the photograph, it does look as if it is quite tall.

Betty Martin and Crab Pot motifs

Betty Martin, 6 stitches wide is a popular motif amongst Sheringham knitters.

The diamonds (meshes) have a diagonal bar above them. It is the only known example of this motif and may be a representation of an early type of crab pot known as a 'swummer' (swimmer), which were not roped together in shanks as they are today but were set individually, each with its own tow (rope) and danbuoy. As the pot was lowered to its position or hauled off the seabed it hung at an angle on the end of the tow. This pattern could be contrasted with the Esther Nurse design (GP39) that is interpreted as old fashioned simple hoop nets.



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A full-size gansey was knitted in Frangipani 5-ply at a tension of 8.25 spi by Val Smith in 2021-2022 (not blocked).



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