

# WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

44/10



## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

**INCIDENT NUMBER** 44/10  
**PART OF STUDY** FSGD-100  
**REGIONAL NUMBER** W/10/07  
**OTHER REFERENCES** 29/B0143/04/10  
**SENDER** VLA Aberystwyth  
**LOCATION** Llanilid, nr Llanharan  
Glamorgan  
**GRID REFERENCE** SS9981  
**INCIDENT DATE** 21 April 2010  
**SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT** background residue  
**DATE OF REPORT** 21 June 2010

**REPORTING OFFICER** [REDACTED]

**SIGNED : ..** [REDACTED] .....

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 red kite

**COPIED TO** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456

E-mail: [wis@fera.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wis@fera.gsi.gov.uk)

Sand Hutton, York  
YO41 1LZ, UK

Tel +44 (0)1904 462 000  
Fax +44 (0)1904 462 111

E-mail [info@fera.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info@fera.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.defra.gov.uk/fera](http://www.defra.gov.uk/fera)



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<b>Samples received</b>		<b>Date received</b>	<b>Sample identifier</b>	
85087	red kite	tissues	26/4/10	VLA No: 29/B0143/04/10

**Summary of field data**

An adult male red kite was found near some ponds on an opencast site that has been restored. Initially, it was thought that the bird had been shot, as there was a hole in the head. However, there were no other signs of injury and no other casualties were noted in the area. The incident was reported to the PWCO and the WAG were contacted. The site appeared to have a rich variety of wildlife and no livestock in the immediate vicinity.

**Summary of post mortem report**

One adult male red kite weighing 850g was submitted for post mortem. The bird was in fair condition, but was severely autolysed. The right eye was missing and there was very little gizzard content. The respiratory, urinary, genital, alimentary, musculo-skeletal systems were all unremarkable. The bird had a metal tag on the right leg - GC28379. No apparent cause of death was established from gross post-mortem.

**Analysis : chloralose-alpha**

85087	kidney	no chloralose-alpha detected	detection limit	0.2	mg/kg
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**Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite**

85087	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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**Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite**

85087	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0062	mg/kg
85087	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.031	mg/kg
85087	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.028	mg/kg

**Conclusion**

It was suspected that this red kite had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of brodifacoum, bromadiolone and difenacoum, in the liver of this red kite. This bird has been exposed to several anticoagulant rodenticides and it is of concern that this includes brodifacoum, which is restricted to use inside buildings. However, the carcass was severely autolysed and so the significance of these residues is uncertain.