

## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 55/16  
PART OF STUDY FSGD-208  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/16/31  
OTHER REFERENCES 28/M0212/11/16  
SENDER VLA Carmarthen , WAG  
LOCATION Stepside  
Pembrokeshire  
GRID REFERENCE SN1308  
INCIDENT DATE 22 November 2016  
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT unknown  
DATE OF REPORT 24 February 2017

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED : .....

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard  
1 fox

COPIED TO



Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
98633	fox	tissues	29/11/16	APHA: 28-M0212-11-16, spec 2
98633	fox		29/11/16	APHA: 28-M0212-11-16, spec 2
98634	buzzard		29/11/16	

### Summary of field data

A dead buzzard carcass was found under a clump of cut grass, during an agricultural field inspection. The finder took photographs of the carcass in-situ and noted that it was very decomposed. The following day the Police were contacted and a visit was arranged to collect the carcass. The location is on a field boundary about 350m from the road, it was not near overhead wires and was about 800m from game release pens. On searching the area a dead fox was also found in the middle of a field. The finds were also reported to the Welsh Government and arrangements were made to collect the fox carcass the following day. The complete buzzard carcass was sent directly to the Wildlife Incident Unit and the fox carcass was taken to the APHA.

### Summary of post mortem report

A fox was submitted for post-mortem. It weighed 3.1kg and was in emaciated body condition and severe autolysis. There was severe myiasis with large numbers of live maggots. All internal structures were not present. There was some limb muscle collected for toxicology and some material that was found within the abdominal cavity. There was no shot found.

### Analysis : chloralose analysis suite

98633	muscle	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.002	mg/kg
98634		no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.2	µg

### Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

98633	stomach contents	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.01	mg/kg
98634		no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.1	µg

### Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98633	stomach contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	3	mg/kg
98634		no organophosphate detected	detection limit	1	µg

### Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98633	muscle	no rodenticide detected	detection limit	0.0002	mg/kg
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### Conclusion

It was suspected that these animals had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples, although limited samples were available from the fox and a surface wash of the entire carcass was used for the buzzard. However, no residues from the compound groups tested for were found. Therefore, the cause of death of these animals remains uncertain.