

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

130/14



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 130/14
PART OF STUDY FSGD-195
REGIONAL NUMBER W/15/03
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0232-02-15
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Llanfilo
Powys
GRID REFERENCE SO1333
INCIDENT DATE 29 January 2015
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 30 April 2015

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED : ...

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456

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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
97891	buzzard	26/2/15	VLA ref: 28-B0232-02-15 Specimen 1
97891	buzzard	tissues	26/2/15
			VLA ref: 28-B0232-02-15 Specimen 1

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found in the middle of a field and reported to Brecknock Wildlife Trust. The land surrounding the field is farm land, no uses have been given.

Summary of post mortem report

A female buzzard was submitted for post mortem with good body condition and showing a severe degree of autolysis. The stomach was full of dark hair and muscle material and a spinal column was found. The spleen was prominent and possibly slightly enlarged. The nervous system showed a small amount of blood present at the base of the cranium. A small area of dark red discoloration of the cranium was also detected more anteriorly. Gross examination of the rest of the carcass did not detect any significant abnormalities, but the endocrine system was not examined. The bird was in good condition with subcutaneous and internal fat present. It is difficult to ascertain if the small amount of blood detected in the cranium was clinically significant. No obvious cause of death could therefore be found.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

97891	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose

97891	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

97891	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	2	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

97891	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0007	mg/kg
97891	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0004	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed small residues of difenacoum and bromadiolone in the liver of this bird. Although there was blood detected in the cranium, at these residue levels the findings are considered to be consistent with exposure and so the cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain.