

# WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

125/14



## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

**INCIDENT NUMBER** 125/14  
**PART OF STUDY** FSGD-195  
**REGIONAL NUMBER** W/15/04  
**OTHER REFERENCES** 28-M0020-02-15  
**SENDER** VLA Carmarthen  
**LOCATION** Llantrisant Common  
Glamorgan  
**GRID REFERENCE** ST0484  
**INCIDENT DATE** 30 January 2015  
**SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT** background residue  
**DATE OF REPORT** 30 April 2015

**REPORTING OFFICER** [REDACTED]

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

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard  
1 cat

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

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| Samples received |         | Date received | Sample identifier       |
|------------------|---------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 97878            | cat     | 11/2/15       | VLA ref: 28-M0020-02-15 |
| 97879            | buzzard | 11/2/15       | VLA ref: 28-M0020-02-15 |
| 97879            | buzzard | 11/2/15       | VLA ref: 28-M0020-02-15 |
|                  | tissues |               |                         |

### Summary of field data

A dead buzzard and a dead cat were found within a feet of each other. The cat had a bandage on one leg indicating that it had possibly received veterinary treatment recently. The cat had been severely scavenged. There were no obvious signs of trauma to the buzzard and the buzzard had fur in its talons. The carcasses were found on a common and sent for post mortem. The Police were involved in the incident and delivered the carcasses to the APHA.

### Summary of post mortem report

A female buzzard, weight 1.062kgs of good body condition and a moderate degree of autolysis and a cat carcass with severe autolysis and appeared to have been scavenged were sent for post-mortem. The buzzard liver was dark red in colour, there was a pale pink muscle type material in the oesophagus and the stomach was full of dark hair and the remains of a small mammal and other unidentifiable material. The kidneys were dark red in colour and gross examination of the rest of the carcass did not reveal any significant abnormality, but the endocrine system was not examined. The pale pink muscle in the oesophagus of the buzzard was similar to the appearance of the muscle of the cat. The dark hair in the stomach of the bird was similar to the coat colour of the cat. The cat carcass was surface examined and consisted of a head and chest area with a bandage on the right fore leg covering an area of clipped hair. Samples were taken for poisons analysis from the buzzard and an avian influenza screening test carried out. The buzzard showed no obvious cause of death and appeared to be in good condition. The uniform dark colour of the liver and kidneys is likely to have been due to freezing and thawing of the carcass.

### Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

|       |                  |                            |                 |     |       |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------|
| 97879 | gizzard contents | no carbamate (LC) detected | detection limit | 0.1 | mg/kg |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------|

### Analysis : chloralose

|       |        |                        |                 |     |       |
|-------|--------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------|
| 97879 | kidney | no chloralose detected | detection limit | 0.1 | mg/kg |
|-------|--------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------|

### Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

|       |                  |                             |                 |   |       |
|-------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---|-------|
| 97879 | gizzard contents | no organophosphate detected | detection limit | 3 | mg/kg |
|-------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---|-------|

### Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

|       |       |              |           |        |       |
|-------|-------|--------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| 97879 | liver | difenacoum   | confirmed | 0.027  | mg/kg |
| 97879 | liver | brodifacoum  | confirmed | 0.013  | mg/kg |
| 97879 | liver | bromadiolone | confirmed | 0.0034 | 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, brodifacoum and and some bromadiolone in the liver of this bird. These findings are considered to be consistent with exposure and so the cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain.