

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

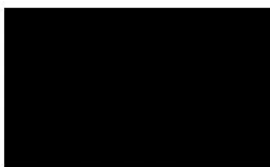
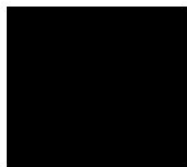
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ... [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard
1 cat

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Direct Phone Number 01904 462456

E-mail: wiis@fera.gsi.gov.uk

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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	tissues	11/2/15	VLA ref: 28-M0020-02-15

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
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Analysis : chloralose

97879	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

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