

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

146/14



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 146/14
PART OF STUDY FSGD-195
REGIONAL NUMBER W/15/06
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0261-03-15
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Brecon
Powys
GRID REFERENCE SO0926
INCIDENT DATE 21 February 2015
**SUSPECTED CAUSE
OF INCIDENT** starvation
DATE OF REPORT 20 May 2015

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED
2 buzzard

COPIED TO [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
97931	buzzard		26/3/15	28/B0261/03/15 : 1
97931	buzzard	tissues	26/3/15	28/B0261/03/15 : 1
97932	buzzard		26/3/15	28/B0261/03/15 : 2
97932	buzzard	tissues	26/3/15	28/B0261/03/15 : 2

Summary of field data

Two buzzards were found dead in a field. They showed no obvious signs of trauma, but as they were found together this was deemed suspicious. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] On this land pheasants are released and shooting is carried out by a local gun club.

Summary of post mortem report

Two buzzards were submitted for post-mortem. The pectoral muscles were wasted and the eyes sunken in both carcasses. A female buzzard (buzzard 1) weight 526g, with an emaciated body condition and moderate degree of autolysis was submitted. There was no visible fat in the carcass, and the liver was small. The crop and proventriculus contained a small amount of brown pasty content. The gizzard contained a small amount of very dark pasty content. The cloaca contained dark liquid and the ovary was not active. No other abnormalities were seen in the reproductive system. Another buzzard (buzzard 2), sex un-determined, weight 477g with an emaciated body condition and severe degree of autolysis was submitted. There was no visible fat in the carcass and the liver was small. The crop contained a small amount of pale pasty content. The proventriculus was empty. The gizzard contained a small amount of dark fibrous content. One ascarid worm was seen in the small intestine. The cloaca contained a small volume of white liquid resembling urates. No other abnormalities were seen.

Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

97931	liver	no rodenticide detected	detection limit	0.0004	mg/kg
97932	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0003	mg/kg
97932	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.085	mg/kg
97932	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0002	mg/kg

Conclusion

Initially, it was suspected that these buzzards had been poisoned. Given the post-mortem findings, laboratory analysis for a range of anticoagulant rodenticides only has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of brodifacoum, difenacoum and bromadiolone in the liver of one buzzard. The amounts found are considered to be consistent with exposure only and the cause of death of these birds is probably due to a natural cause, such as starvation.