

# Incidents Involving Pesticides & Animals

Freephone 0800 321 600 Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme

# Risks to Animals from Pesticides





This leaflet explains an important government initiative called the Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme which aims to identify harmful effects of pesticides on animals.



The Scheme is concerned with incidents resulting from both the correct or incorrect use of pesticides and most of these are reported by members of the public.

The Scheme helps to safeguard wildlife and pets in both the town and countryside.

Freephone 0800 321 600 Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme

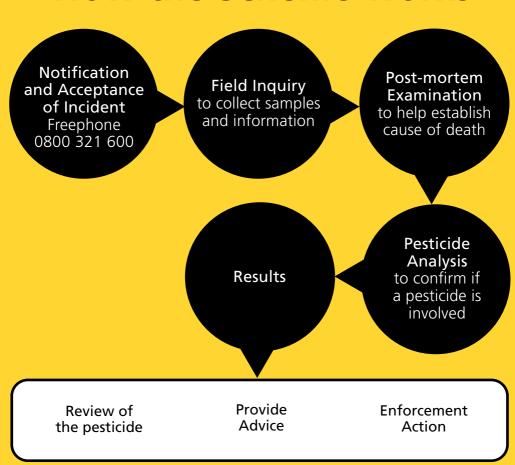
### You can help by reporting

- All animals suspected to have been poisoned by pesticides
- Any spillages of pesticide such as granules or pellets
- Possible poisonous baits
- Suspected poisoning of bees

### Information you should provide

- The location of the incident
- The number and type of casualties or suspected baits
- Why you believe pesticides are involved
- Your name and a daytime telephone number

### **How the Scheme works**



### **Details of the Scheme**

**Notification of an incident** to freephone 0800 321 600. This is usually by members of the public. During out of hours a message can be left on the answer machine. A Welsh Government Wildlife Advisor will contact you as soon as possible. Remember to leave your daytime telephone number. Alternatively, contact the police on 101 and ask for the Rural Crime Team or online via your local police website.

**Field Inquiries** of accepted incidents are carried out by a Wildlife Advisor who will normally visit the area and collect any animal carcasses, samples of pesticides and relevant information. Where appropriate this may involve other organisations.

**Examination** of dead animals by the Animal and Plant Health Agency aims to establish the cause of death. Incidents involving animals which have died of non-pesticide causes such as disease, starvation and/or physical injury, will not be taken further.

**Pesticide Analysis** will be carried out by a specialist unit at Fera Science Ltd to identify and interpret the significance of any pesticides found.

**Results** are considered by the Welsh Government who will determine if approved use, careless misuse or deliberate, illegal abuse of pesticides is involved. The Welsh Government

will work in collaboration with the police and then decide if any action should be taken.

If appropriate, there are a number of options that can be considered including advising on safe use, taking enforcement measures or if necessary, changing the conditions of use of a pesticide.



## **Safety Concerns**

Do not handle animal casualties, suspected baits, pesticides or pesticide containers. Where it is safe to do so, cover dead animals, baits or pesticides.

Never unblock a badger sett or fox earth since these may have been gassed. These situations are extremely dangerous and require a specialist response.

Always seek immediate veterinary assistance for your pets or other animals if you suspect that they have been poisoned.

Always read and follow all the label instructions when storing and using pesticides. Each year, animals are poisoned due to the careless use of pesticides in the countryside, towns and private gardens. Remember that all pesticides pose a risk if they are not used in accordance with the label instructions.

Out of date products must be disposed of safely. Always keep pesticides in their original containers. Information on the storage and disposal of pesticides can be found at www.pesticides.gov.uk.



Freephone 0800 321 600 Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme

#### Welsh Government

Wildlife Management Rhodfa Padarn Llanbadarn Fawr Aberystwyth **SY23 3UR** 0800 321 600

Email: wildlife@gov.wales

#### Fera Science Ltd

Wildlife Incident Unit York Biotech Campus Sand Hutton, York YO41 1LZ 0300 100 0321

Email: wiis@fera.co.uk www.fera.co.uk/chemicalregulation/post-market-

stewardship/wildlife-incident-unit

### **Health and Safety Executive/ Chemicals Regulation Division**

Mallard House Kings Pool 3 Peasholme Green York YO1 7PX

Email: crdenforcement@hse.gov.uk

www.pesticides.gov.uk

### National Bee Unit, Animal and **Plant Health Agency**

York Biotech Campus Sand Hutton York YO41 117 0300 303 0094

Email: nbu@apha.gov.uk www.nationalbeeunit.com

The Partnership for Action against Wildlife Crime is a multi-agency body comprising representatives of the organisations involved in the work against wildlife crime. The Welsh Government is a government partner organisation.

### Freephone 0800 321 600 Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme



