

# WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

84/05

## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT



CENTRAL SCIENCE  
LABORATORY

INCIDENT NUMBER 84/05  
PART OF STUDY PGD-200  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/05/18  
OTHER REFERENCES 29/B102/07/05  
SENDER VLA Aberystwyth  
LOCATION Llandysul  
Carmarthenshire  
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]  
INCIDENT DATE 21 July 2005  
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT unknown  
DATE OF REPORT 27 October 2005

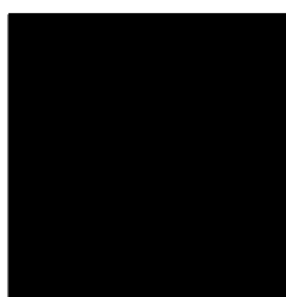
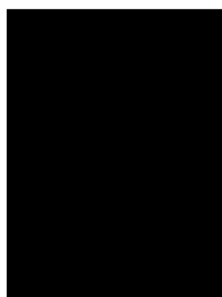
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ..... [REDACTED]

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

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Sand Hutton \* York

YO41 1LZ \* UK

Tel: +44 (0)1904 462000

Fax: +44 (0)1904 462111

Website: [www.csl.gov.uk](http://www.csl.gov.uk)

E-mail: [science@csl.gov.uk](mailto:science@csl.gov.uk)

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456  
Direct Fax Number 01904 462251

E-mail: [wiis@csl.gov.uk](mailto:wiis@csl.gov.uk)

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| Samples received |         |         | Date received | Sample identifier     |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 57429            | buzzard | tissues | 5/8/05        | VLA ref 29/B102/07/05 |

**Summary of field data**

A buzzard was found dead in a field early one morning; it had not been there the night before. The bird was found on its back with its wings outstretched. The area where the carcass was found is very short grassland, which is mown for caravans. The carcass was found with several live crows and magpies around it. This incident is located about five miles from a previous incident - 38/05, W/05/08 which occurred in spring 2005 and involved fenthion. The man who found the bird in the current incident had not seen any other casualties in the area, but thought that he may find more birds when he cut the hay in adjoining fields. This is a rural area on the edge of a village, with sheep and cattle in the vicinity. The man who found the bird is not aware of any game interests in the area.

**Summary of post mortem report**

A mature female buzzard was submitted, in good bodily condition, weighing 940g. It was well feathered, with no external lesions or abnormalities. There was blood in the mouth and trachea, and the lungs were haemorrhagic. The crop was full and included a number of earthworms. The gizzard was full of grey solid material. There was no evidence of trauma. Due to the haemorrhagic lesions of the lungs, poisoning could not be ruled out.

**Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite**

|       |      |                             |                 |      |       |
|-------|------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------|-------|
| 57429 | crop | no organophosphate detected | detection limit | 0.09 | mg/kg |
|-------|------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------|-------|

**Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite**

|       |       |            |           |      |       |
|-------|-------|------------|-----------|------|-------|
| 57429 | liver | difenacoum | confirmed | 0.03 | mg/kg |
|-------|-------|------------|-----------|------|-------|

**Conclusion**

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a small residue of difenacoum in the liver of this bird. Although there were some haemorrhagic findings noted on post-mortem, it is unlikely that such a small residue of difenacoum was the actual cause of death of this buzzard.