

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 25/17
PART OF STUDY FSGD-209
REGIONAL NUMBER W/17/05
OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0051/05/17
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Cwm Cynfal, Blaenau Ffestiniog
Merioneth
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 2 May 2017
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 11 August 2017

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
98724	buzzard		2/6/17	28-B0051-05-17: 'Buzzard' : spec no '1'
98724	buzzard	tissues	2/6/17	28-B0051-05-17: 'Buzzard' : spec no '1'

Summary of field data

Two dead buzzards were found in woodland. The finder initially noticed one carcase, but this was subsequently burnt. However, when another buzzard carcase was found a few days later the finder was suspicious that poisoning might have occurred. It was reported that there was no evidence of trauma to either bird and so the most recent carcase was taken to a local Police station. Arrangements were made to collect the carcase and get it to the APHA for a post-mortem.

Summary of post mortem report

A female adult buzzard weight 1.3kg with good body condition was submitted for post mortem. The proventriculus and gizzard contained a good volume of undistinguishable green and brown content. External examination of the skin and subcutis, the musculo-skeletal system, the respiratory, cardiovascular, lymphorecticular, endocrine, urinary, reproductive and nervous system were all unremarkable.

Analysis : chloralose

98724	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.01	mg/kg
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Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

98724	gizzard contents	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.008	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98724	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.5	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98724	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0039	mg/kg
98724	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0011	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 a residue of brodifacoum and difenacoum in the liver of this buzzard, but the amounts are considered to be consistent with background exposure only. Therefore, the cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain.