

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT



Original thinking... applied

INCIDENT NUMBER 2/21
PART OF STUDY FSGD-213
REGIONAL NUMBER W/21/02
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0083-01-21
SENDER APHA Carmarthen VIC
LOCATION Boverton, Llantwit Major
Glamorgan
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 9 January 2021
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 29 March 2021

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]
SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED
1 buzzard

COPIED TO [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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Samples received

Date received

Sample identifier

100152	buzzard		26/1/21	APHA: 28-B0083-01-21
100152	buzzard	tissues	26/1/21	APHA: 28-B0083-01-21

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found on a footpath where some temporary three strand electric fencing for sheep had recently been erected. The finder did not know whether it was suspicious, but they had not seen dead birds of prey in the area before and so the carcass was reported to the RSPB. The Welsh Government were also contacted and it was reported that the bird is separated from the nearest road by dense undergrowth and trees. The finder was able to collect the bird and store it in a concrete shed until it could be collected. The RSPB noted that they have previous cases of persecution in the locality and so arrangements were made to collect the carcass and send it to the APHA for an examination.

Summary of post mortem report

The carcass was received double bagged in a box and labelled WIIS W2102 from Boverton. It was a female buzzard, of weight 552g (in bag) and in emaciated body condition and moderate autolysis. The pectoral muscles were markedly wasted with a prominent keel bone. There was a small amount of dark liquid in the stomachs. The small and large intestine also contained dark liquid. The ovary was small and inactive. No abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen.

Analysis : rodenticide & chloralose analysis suite

100152	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0017	mg/kg
100152	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0026	mg/kg

Conclusion

Initially, it was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. However, the buzzard was emaciated and had not eaten recently and so laboratory analysis for a range of anticoagulant rodenticides and chloralose only has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of brodifacoum and bromadiolone in the liver of this buzzard, but the amounts found are small and consistent with background exposure only. Given the condition of the carcass, starvation may have contributed to the death of this buzzard, but the actual cause of death of it remains uncertain.

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