

# WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

8/22



Original thinking... applied

## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 8/22  
PART OF STUDY FSGD-213  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/22/02  
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0039-01-22  
SENDER APHA Carmarthen VIC  
LOCATION Llangedwyn  
Denbighshire  
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]  
INCIDENT DATE 5 January 2022  
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue  
DATE OF REPORT 4 March 2022

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ..... [REDACTED]

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 common buzzard

COPIED TO



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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
100620	common buzzard		25/1/22	APHA: 28-B0039-01-22
100620	common buzzard	tissues	25/1/22	APHA: 28-B0039-01-22

## Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found in a field. The buzzard was found dead by the reporter in a field that is near to where they live. However, the carcass was only collected for safe storage by the reporter about four days later and stored in a cool box. The Welsh Government were contacted and arrangements were made to deliver the carcass to the APHA. There was a picture of the bird as it was found also available. The reporter was suspicious of the cause of death as there is a local intensive gamebird shoot for pheasant and duck nearby.

## Summary of post mortem report

A cardboard box with barcode 77128 and labelled WIIS case number W/22/02 was received and the carcass was triple bagged in black bin bags. This was a female common buzzard, weight 1.356kg and good body condition with severe autolysis. There was haemorrhage of the dorsal lumbar region with a large blood clot in the caudal abdomen. There were maggots in the mouth. The proventriculus and gizzard contained a small amount of soft brown content. The cloaca was dark red and prolapsed. The ovary was not active. There were no abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen.

## Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

100620	gizzard contents	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.05	mg/kg
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## Analysis : rodenticide & chloralose analysis suite

100620	kidney	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0029	mg/kg
100620	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.019	mg/kg
100620	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.013	mg/kg

## Conclusion

Initially, it was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned, although there were some abnormalities found on examination that might account for its death. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed small residues of difenacoum, bromadiolone and brodifacoum in the liver of this buzzard. However, these residues are consistent with background exposure levels only and are unlikely to be the cause of death of the buzzard. Therefore, the cause of death of this buzzard is uncertain, but appears to be from a prolapsed cloaca and haemorrhage within the abdomen. However, it is not known if the haemorrhage caused the prolapse, or was as a result of the prolapse.

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