

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

62/12



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REVISED REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 62/12
PART OF STUDY FSGD-170
REGIONAL NUMBER W/12/09
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0192-05-12
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Haverford West
Pembrokeshire
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 1 May 2012
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT mixture of rodenticides
unspecified
DATE OF REPORT 2 August 2012

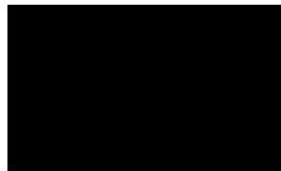
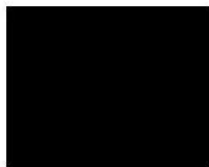
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
95605	buzzard	24/5/12	VLA ref 28-B0192-05-12
95605	buzzard tissues	24/5/12	VLA ref 28-B0192-05-12

Summary of field data

One dead buzzard was found on a common. The bird had no obvious signs of injury but was bedraggled due to bad weather prior to being found. Farming in the area consists mainly of cattle farming, very few sheep and no known game interests.

Summary of post mortem report

One male buzzard weighing 935g was submitted for post-mortem. The bird was in poor condition and had undergone a severe degree of autolysis. Examination was hampered due to autolysis and large numbers of maggots present. External examination revealed a large number of maggots on the legs. The abdominal cavity was filled with a large number of maggots, there was no alimentary system present and only a small portion of liver remained. The respiratory system was not present, there was a large number of maggots in the cavity. In the nervous system there were maggots close to the brain.

Analysis : chloralose-alpha analysis suite

95605	muscle	no chloralose-alpha detected	detection limit	0.8	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

95605	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0031	mg/kg
95605	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.18	mg/kg
95605	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0052	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, although tests were limited by the available tissues. However, no residues from the compound groups tested for were found. The cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain. However, a further test for anticoagulant rodenticides will be completed and a revised report issued if a residue is found.

The further test for a range of anticoagulant rodenticides has been completed and residues of brodifacoum, bromadiolone and difenacoum were detected and confirmed in the liver of the buzzard. This buzzard has been exposed to several anticoagulant rodenticides, but the autolysed condition of the carcase prevented determination of haemorrhages. However, the amounts, particularly of brodifacoum, are at a level that may be regarded as significant and could have contributed to the death of this bird. It is likely that a rodenticide treatment is the source of these and it is of concern that brodifacoum has been found, as this is restricted to use within buildings.

This replaces the earlier report issued on the 19 July 2012.