

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT



3/13

The Food & Environment
Research Agency

INCIDENT NUMBER 3/13
PART OF STUDY FSGD-190
REGIONAL NUMBER W/13/01
OTHER REFERENCES 29/B0131/01/13
SENDER VLA Aberystwyth
LOCATION Nefyn
Caernarfonshire
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 26 January 2013
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 30 April 2013

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ... [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456

E-mail: wiis@fera.gsi.gov.uk



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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
96566	buzzard	6/2/13	29/B131/1/13 : Inc 1142/26/1
96566	buzzard tissues	6/2/13	29/B131/1/13 : Inc 1142/26/1

Summary of field data

An ill buzzard was found just sitting on a public footpath that leads down to the sea. The find was initially reported to the RSPCA, who made arrangements to visit the area. This visit was within a few hours of the report, but the buzzard was found to be dead by then. There were no obvious marks on the carcase and it was placed in a freezer at the RSPCA and then forwarded to the AHVLA.

Summary of post mortem report

A male buzzard, of weight 0.5kg and fair body condition and mild autolysis was submitted for post-mortem. The carcase was well feathered and only moderately muscled with a fairly prominent breast bone. There was no evidence of skeletal trauma. The crop contained a piece of muscle. There was a small amount of unidentifiable material in the gizzard. The conjunctivae were chalk white. The abdominal cavity, respiratory, cardiovascular, lymphoreticular, endocrine, urinary and reproductive systems were unremarkable.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

96566	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.08	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose

96566	muscle	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.05	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

96566	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.41	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

96566	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.00038	mg/kg
96566	liver	bromadiolone	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 bromadiolone and difenacoum in the liver of this buzzard. The amount found is considered to be consistent with exposure to the compounds only and so the cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain.