

# WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT



25/13

The Food & Environment  
Research Agency

INCIDENT NUMBER 25/13  
PART OF STUDY FSGD-190  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/13/08  
OTHER REFERENCES 29/B0150/03/13  
SENDER VLA Aberystwyth  
LOCATION Wenalt, Llanafan  
Cardiganshire  
GRID REFERENCE SN6871  
INCIDENT DATE 27 March 2013  
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT traffic accident  
DATE OF REPORT 13 June 2013

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED : .....

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 red kite

COPIED TO

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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
96746	red kite	10/4/13	Spec ref 1, VLA no 29-B0150-03-13
96746	red kite	tissues	10/4/13 Spec ref 1, VLA no 29-B0150-03-13

**Summary of field data**

A red kite was found dead near a roadside. Therefore, this might be a road traffic accident, but it was the second red kite found at this location in the last couple of weeks. There was also no road kill present on the road that the red kite might have been feeding on.

**Summary of post mortem report**

An adult male, red kite, of weight 818g, good body condition and severe autolysis was submitted for post-mortem. The head had been subject to trauma which had caused herniation of the brain through the joints in the cranial bones. There were blood clots present in the abdominal cavity and adhered to the liver. The capsule of the right liver lobe had been ruptured. There was white pasty material present in the crop and ingesta was present throughout the rest of the gastrointestinal tract. There was blood was present in the air sacs and blood present in the pericardial sac.

**Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite**

96746	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.09	mg/kg
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**Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite**

96746	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.03	mg/kg
96746	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.008	mg/kg
96746	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0073	mg/kg

**Conclusion**

It was suspected that this red kite had been poisoned, although it was found near to a roadside. Given the post-mortem findings, laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed residues of difenacoum, brodifacoum and bromadiolone in the liver of this bird, but the amounts found are consistent with exposure only. Therefore, it is likely that this red kite died from traumatic injuries, which are probably consistent with a road traffic accident.