

**WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT**

**INCIDENT NUMBER** 62/17  
**PART OF STUDY** FSGD-209  
**REGIONAL NUMBER** W/17/12  
**OTHER REFERENCES** 28/B0044/11/17  
**SENDER** VLA Carmarthen  
**LOCATION** Abergele  
Denbighshire  
**GRID REFERENCE** SH8977  
**INCIDENT DATE** 30 October 2017  
**SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT** bendiocarb  
abuse  
**DATE OF REPORT** 15 March 2018

**RESTRICTED****REPORTING OFFICER** [REDACTED]**SIGNED :** ..... [REDACTED] .....**NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED**

1 pigeon carcase (bait?)  
1 peregrine

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
98896	pigeon carcase (bait?)		14/11/17	APHA: 28-B0044-11-17, spec 2
98927	peregrine		30/11/17	28/B0044/11/17 : 1
98927	peregrine	tissues	30/11/17	28/B0044/11/17 : 1

### Summary of field data

A pigeon and peregrine falcon were found dead on a quarry site. The peregrine was found near the pigeon that had a full crop of corn, a marking on the leg and with the neck and breast eaten. The leg marking might have been from the removal of a leg ring and the pigeon was not tethered. The incident was reported to the police and the RSPB. The RSPB in turn contacted the WIIS. The birds were collected and stored on site in a freezer awaiting collection arranged by the Rural Crime team.

### Summary of post mortem report

A peregrine falcon with a weight of 810 g and good body condition was submitted for post mortem. There were grey feathers caught in the claws and the proventriculus and gizzard contained black feathers, soft tissue, pieces of intestinal tract and bony fragments. No abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen.

### Analysis : chloralose

98896		no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.02	µg
98927	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.02	mg/kg

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

98896		bendiocarb	confirmed	18	µg
98927	gizzard contents	bendiocarb	confirmed	36	mg/kg

### Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98896		no organophosphate detected	detection limit	1.2	µg
98927	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.05	mg/kg

### Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98927	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.002	mg/kg
98927	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.003	mg/kg
98927	liver	flocoumafen	confirmed	0.0001	mg/kg

### Conclusion

It was suspected that this peregrine had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of bendiocarb in the gizzard content of the peregrine and given the amount found, exposure to bendiocarb is likely to be the cause of death of it. The testing has also confirmed residues of brodifacoum, bromadiolone and flocoumafen in the liver tissue from this peregrine, but the amounts found are at a level considered to be consistent with background exposure only. There was a smaller than expected residue of bendiocarb confirmed from the pigeon carcase which was intact, but the neck was partially severed and this was assumed to be from predation to the neck area. It is possible that a pigeon carcase has been intentionally laced with bendiocarb, which is an abuse of the pesticide and at least one peregrine has died.