

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT



Original thinking... applied

INCIDENT NUMBER 72/20
PART OF STUDY FSGD-211
REGIONAL NUMBER W/20/06
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0058-06-20
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Saint Harmon
Powys
GRID REFERENCE SN9772
INCIDENT DATE 6 April 2020
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT disease
DATE OF REPORT 4 September 2020

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED :

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 peregrine

COPIED TO

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
99951	peregrine		19/6/20	28/B0058/06/20
99951	peregrine	tissues	19/6/20	28/B0058/06/20

Summary of field data

A dead peregrine was found in rough woodland behind a house. The bird appeared to be reasonably fresh and was possibly a male. Welsh Government were contacted and the bird was collected by the finder, triple bagged and it was stored in a freezer until arrangements could be made to deliver the carcass to the APHA. There is a pheasant shoot on the next door estate and there are no known nest sites or winter roosts within about three miles.

Summary of post mortem report

A male, peregrine falcon was submitted, frozen, for post-mortem and it weighed 535g, a fair body condition and mild autolysis. The gizzard contained a small amount of soft green content which was adherent to the koilin layer of the gizzard. There were long white slender worms within the airsac caudal to left lung. The testes were small and inactive. No abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen.

Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

99951	stomach contents	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.7	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

99951	stomach contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	1.0	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide & chloralose analysis suite

99951	liver	no rodenticide & chloralose detected	detection limit	0.02	mg/kg
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Conclusion

It was suspected that this peregrine had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. However, no residues from the compound groups tested for were found. The cause of death of this peregrine remains uncertain, although the airsac worms may have contributed to this bird's death and *Serratospiculum* spp. are reported in the airsacs of falcons.

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