

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

40/11



The Food and Environment
Research Agency

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 40/11
PART OF STUDY FSGD-130
REGIONAL NUMBER W/11/09
OTHER REFERENCES 29-B0060-04-11
SENDER VLA Aberystwyth
LOCATION Aberystwyth
Cardiganshire
GRID REFERENCE SN6180
INCIDENT DATE 8 April 2011
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 30 June 2011

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED :
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NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 peregrine

COPIED TO



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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
90213	peregrine		14/4/11	Specimen ref 1, VLA no: 29-B0060-04-11
90213	peregrine	tissues	14/4/11	Specimen ref 1, VLA no: 29-B0060-04-11

Summary of field data

A male peregrine falcon weighing 519g was found dead on a bank of the river that flowed through a trading estate on the outskirts of Aberystwyth.

Summary of post mortem report

The carcass was in fair to good body condition being well feathered and reasonably well muscled. The weight was 519g. The crop and gizzard were empty. The degree of autolysis was fairly mild. All other systems were unremarkable. The cause of death was not apparent and poisoning cannot therefore be ruled out. Samples will be submitted for possible testing for White Nile Fever Virus, while at the same time trying to ascertain whether Avian Influenza screening is required.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

90213	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose-alpha

90213	kidney	no chloralose-alpha detected	detection limit	0.4	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

90213	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.8	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

90213	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0002	mg/kg
90213	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0002	mg/kg

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. These tests have detected and confirmed small residues of brodifacoum and bromadiolone in the liver from this bird and these are probably consistent with exposure only. Therefore, the cause of death of this peregrine remains uncertain.