

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

58/15



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 58/15
PART OF STUDY FSGD-208
REGIONAL NUMBER W/15/30
OTHER REFERENCES 26-B0281-08-15
SENDER VLA Shrewsbury
LOCATION Bodfari
Denbighshire
GRID REFERENCE SJ0970
INCIDENT DATE 15 July 2015
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 13 November 2015

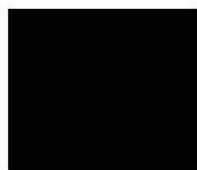
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
98242	buzzard	21/8/15	26-B0281-08-15 : spec ref: 'buzzard'
98242	buzzard tissues	21/8/15	26-B0281-08-15 : spec ref: 'buzzard'

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found on some school playing fields and was collected and submitted for a post mortem. The bird had died at sometime between 17:00hrs on the 14 July and 08:30hrs on the 15 July. The bird showed signs of possible trauma injury to the head and a hole in the side of the neck. The bird may have been shot, but will be treated as a suspected poisoning until the results of the post-mortem conclude on this.

Summary of post mortem report

There was a focal subcutaneous bruise with haemorrhage over the head (approximately 2cm of diameter) and two symmetrical holes of approximately 0.5 cm diameter below the head with no associated bleeding. The bird had a good amount of subcutaneous fat. The gizzard and crop was filled with earth worms and the intestines were not inflamed, with minimal content in the small intestine. The musculoskeletal system, cardiovascular system, urinary system and nervous system were all unremarkable and the lymphoreticular system, endocrine system and reproductive system were not examined. The cause of death was not established, as the bruise over the head was not associated with skull fracture, or visible brain damage. The cause of the lesions on the neck could not be determined.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

98242	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.04	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose

98242	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	2	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98242	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.5	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98242	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.009	mg/kg
98242	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.001	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed residues of bromadiolone and difenacoum in the liver of this buzzard. However, the amounts found are consistent with exposure only, rather than the cause of death of the bird. Therefore, the cause of death of the buzzard remains uncertain at present.