

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

63/15



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 63/15
PART OF STUDY FSGD-208
REGIONAL NUMBER W/15/32
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0148-09-15
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Llandulas
Denbighshire
GRID REFERENCE SH9077
INCIDENT DATE 15 August 2015
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 25 November 2015

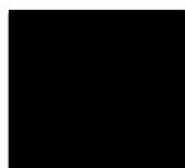
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ... [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO



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Samples received

Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
98260	buzzard	30/9/15	APHA: 28-B0148-09-15
98260	buzzard tissues	30/9/15	APHA: 28-B0148-09-15

Summary of field data

An informant found a dead buzzard [REDACTED] This is the fifth buzzard they have found recently. The individual had been watching the bird when it fell to the ground. No gunshots were heard and the bird seemed to have no apparent injuries except for the left wing and left leg which appeared to be consistent with a fall with the wing bone pushed through the skin. The incident was reported to the local police before being passed to the Welsh Government and APHA. There is no game interest in the area.

Summary of post mortem report

A female buzzard weighing 835g with good body condition and a moderate degree of autolysis was submitted for post mortem. There was a compound fracture with the distal end of the radius projecting through the skin at the carpus on the left wing. Blood was present on the feathers at region of the distal humerus on the same wing. The proventriculus and gizzard were empty. On the anterior surface of the right tibia there was an oval lesion where the whole skin thickness had been removed. Gross emanation of the rest of the carcass did not reveal any significant abnormality, but the endocrine and genital systems were not examined. The lesions described on the wing and the leg could be due to the same trauma, but there were no obvious internal injuries to account for this bird's death, but the freezing and thawing of the carcass and the autolysis could mask other lesions.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

98260	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose

98260	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	3	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98260	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	9	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98260	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.001	mg/kg
98260	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.043	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely agricultural chemicals has been undertaken on the submitted sample. These tests have detected and confirmed residues of difenacoum and bromadiolone 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.