

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

64/15



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 64/15
PART OF STUDY FSGD-208
REGIONAL NUMBER W/15/33
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0149-09-15
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Crugybar
Carmarthenshire
GRID REFERENCE SN6839
INCIDENT DATE 14 September 2015
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 30 November 2015

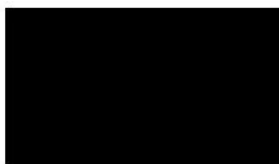
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

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Samples received

			Date received	Sample Identifier
98261	buzzard		30/9/15	APHA: 28-B0149-09-15
98261	buzzard	tissues	30/9/15	APHA: 28-B0149-09-15

Summary of field data

An informant found a dead buzzard. They suspected that it had been poisoned due to a proposed wind turbine development in the area which locals are opposing on the grounds there are numerous birds of prey in the area - red kites, buzzards, goshawks and merlin's. There have also been rumours of poisoning circulating in the area for the past few months. The initial planning application was refused, but a new application has recently been submitted. The incident was reported to the Welsh Government before the bird was passed to APHA for post mortem.

Summary of post mortem report

A male buzzard weighing 840g with a fat body condition and a moderate degree of autolysis was submitted for post mortem. The proventriculus and gizzard contained a mass of dark hair and other tissue. Gross examination of the rest of the carcass did not reveal any significant abnormalities, but the endocrine and genital systems were not examined.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

98261	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.007	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose

98261	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	2	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98261	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.5	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98261	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0043	mg/kg
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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 in the liver of this buzzard. However, the amount found is consistent with exposure only, rather than the cause of death of the bird. Therefore, the cause of death of the buzzard remains uncertain, but some further testing will be completed and a revised report issued if a residue is found.