

**WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT**

40/12



**WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT**

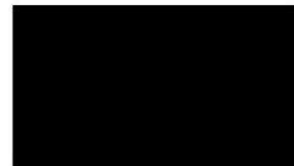
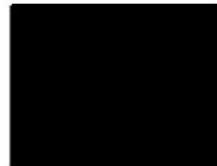
INCIDENT NUMBER 40/12  
PART OF STUDY FSGD-170  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/12/08  
OTHER REFERENCES 29-B0188-03-12  
SENDER VLA Aberystwyth  
LOCATION Llanbister  
Powys  
GRID REFERENCE SO1571  
INCIDENT DATE 27 March 2012  
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT trauma  
DATE OF REPORT 31 May 2012

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ..... [REDACTED] .....

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED  
1 red kite

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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
95360	red kite	3/4/12	VLA ref 29-B0188-03-12
95360	red kite tissues	3/4/12	VLA ref 29-B0188-03-12

**Summary of field data**

██████████ reported he had found a red kite dead ██████████. The kite was found on a still born lamb with food still in its mouth. ██████████. The kite was collected but not the lamb. ██████████. There was no previous knowledge of abuse of pesticide in this area. ██████████. The kite appeared to be in good condition. It appears that it flew in for a feed and then died suddenly. There was no obvious physical evidence that the kite had been attacked.

**Summary of post mortem report**

A male, adult red kite in good body condition was submitted for post-mortem. There was a wing tag H2 blue and leg ring GR19670. The carcass showed no decomposition, with abundant feathering and moderate amounts of subcutaneous fat. Food lodged in the mouth appeared to be animal viscera. Stomach contained matted animal hair, skin, cartilage and a lamb elastrator ring. There was epidural haemorrhaging between the dura mater and cranium. All other systems were unremarkable.

**Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite**

95360	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	0.06	mg/kg
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**Analysis : chloralose-alpha**

95360	kidney	no chloralose-alpha detected	detection limit	1.0	mg/kg
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**Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite**

95360	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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**Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite**

95360	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.03	mg/kg
95360	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.1	mg/kg

**Conclusion**

It was suspected that this red kite had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of brodifacoum and some difenacoum in the liver of this bird. There was a possible head injury noted in this bird, with at least two areas of sub-meningeal haemorrhage. This injury may have been exacerbated by the exposure to anticoagulant rodenticides, particularly the brodifacoum.