



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 45/17
PART OF STUDY FSGD-209
REGIONAL NUMBER W/17/09
OTHER REFERENCES
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Erwood
Powys
GRID REFERENCE SO1047
INCIDENT DATE 11 August 2017
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT not applicable
DATE OF REPORT 31 October 2017

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]
SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED
1 mammal-badger? carcass (bait?)
2 sample

COPIED TO
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456 E-mail: wiis@fera.gsi.gov.uk

Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
98822	mammal-badger? carcase (bait?)	23/8/17	W/17/09 : Spec. no. 2
98823	sample	23/8/17	W/17/09 : Spec. no. 1 white chicken and game carcase?
98824	sample	23/8/17	W/17/09 : Spec. no. 1 corvid carcase/matted hair and vegetation

Summary of field data

A dead corvid was found next to a rotting sheep carcase. An informant was out surveying ponds for pillwort and whilst walking they came across a 2m x 2m fenced off area that contained a dead rotting sheep carcase and a dead black corvid. Also along this path were two live snares that the informant disarmed. The find was reported to Welsh Government and a field visit was arranged. The informant explained that they thought the area was being managed for grouse, but the dead sheep looked suspicious. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] During the visit it was noted that the dead sheep was a large pile of dead birds that were pale in colour (12 approximately). Either side of this pile of birds were the remains of two other game birds. Under the heap of birds was the skull of a raven and a few black feathers. The skeleton and skin of a mammal, possibly a badger, two small plastic containers and a discarded snare were also noted. The remains of the game bird, two pale birds two plastic containers, mammal skeleton and raven skull were sent to Fera for analysis. The track area around the pen where the carcasses were found was searched and five snares were found; they were all anchored and placed on this track that was used by livestock and people. There were also sheep in the area.

Summary of post mortem report

The samples were not suitable for a post-mortem. The possible badger carcase was not tested at Fera, as it had not been screened for TB, or confirmed as from a TB free area.

Analysis : chloralose

98823	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.4	µg
98823	no chloralose detected	detection limit	5	µg
98824	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.4	µg
98824	no chloralose detected	detection limit	8	µg

Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

98823	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.01	µg
98823	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.02	µg
98824	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.03	µg
98824	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.007	µg

Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98823	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	3	µg
98823	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	10	µg
98824	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	40	µg
98824	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	3	µg

Conclusion

It was suspected that these samples might be some poisoned baits. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples, which consisted of some chicken carcasses and the bony remains of a corvid carcase. However, no residues from the compound groups tested for were found. It appears that these carcasses have not been laced with a pesticide.