

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 68/18
PART OF STUDY FSGD-209
REGIONAL NUMBER W/18/19
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0075-09-18
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Aberystwyth
Cardiganshire
GRID REFERENCE SN6882
INCIDENT DATE 27 July 2018
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 4 December 2018

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED] ...

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 red kite

COPIED TO

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
99187	red kite		27/9/18	APHA: 28-B0074-09-18
99187	red kite	tissues	27/9/18	APHA: 28-B0074-09-18

Summary of field data

A red kite was found dead in a paddling pool by a member of the public. The red kite was collected and dropped off at a nearby visitor center. The manager at the visitor center contacted the Welsh Government. The bird was put in the freezer until arrangements were made to deliver it to the APHA.

Summary of post mortem report

A red kite that weighed 926 grams (including an additional bag) in a fair body condition with a mild degree of autolysis was submitted for post-mortem. Examination of the alimentary system found liquid blood tinged cloacal contents. The gizzard and proventriculus was distended with hair and a small amount of seeds in a cluster. There were a large number of approximately 1cm squared chunks of pale meat predominately at the top of the stomach content and liquid intestinal content, with a small number of large ascarid worms was noted. No abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen. The cause of death has not been established. The bird stomach contents indicated it had been feeding prior to death contents including what appeared to be diced meat that was pale in colour.

Analysis : chloralose

99187	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.02	mg/kg
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Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

99187	gizzard contents	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.02	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

99187	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.6	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

99187	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0017	mg/kg
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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 small residue of brodifacoum only in the liver of this red kite. However, given the amount found this residue is consistent with exposure only and is not considered to be the cause of death of this red kite. Therefore, the cause of death of this red kite remains uncertain.