WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

48/19



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 48/19

PART OF STUDY FSGD-211

REGIONAL NUMBER W/19/10

OTHER REFERENCES

SENDER VLA Carmarthen

LOCATION Trecastle, Carmarthen

Carmarthenshire

GRID REFERENCE SN8729

INCIDENT DATE 9 May 2019

SUSPECTED CAUSE

OF INCIDENT

unknown

DATE OF REPORT 19 August 2019

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED:

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 red kite

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Samples received Date received Sample identifier

99533 red kite 17/5/19 28-B23-05-19

Summary of field data

A red kite was found dead under a nest in a field by a member of the Welsh Red Kite Trust.

Summary of post mortem report

A red kite that weighed 0.7 kgs with a severe degree of autolysis was submitted for post mortem. This carcase was severely autolysed and decomposing. There was a small amount of liquefied muscle, bone and feather only. A large number of beetles were present in and on the carcase remains. The entire carcase was forwarded for testing due to the condition of the carcase.

Analysis: chloralose

99533	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.3	μg
Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite				
99533	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	4	μg
Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite				
99533	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	47	μg

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 sample, but this could only be done from a surface wash of the carcase. The carcase was decomposed, with both wings present and a green tag on the right wing and purple coloured tag (number 88 and please inform- other information rubbed off) on the left wing. The head and neck were missing and there was a ring on the left foot with the number AJ60649. There were no residues from the compound groups tested for found during the testing and the cause of death of it remains uncertain.