

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

10/15



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

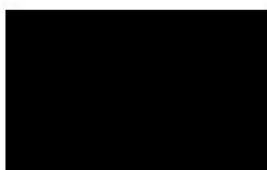
INCIDENT NUMBER 10/15
PART OF STUDY FSGD-208
REGIONAL NUMBER W/15/15
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0120-04-15
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Trawsgoed, Aberystwyth
Cardiganshire
GRID REFERENCE SN6773
INCIDENT DATE 8 April 2015
**SUSPECTED CAUSE
OF INCIDENT** trauma
DATE OF REPORT 27 July 2015

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED
1 sparrowhawk

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
97972	sparrowhawk		23/4/15	28-B0120-04-15
97972	sparrowhawk	tissues	23/4/15	28-B0120-04-15

Summary of field data

A dead sparrowhawk was found in a copse. The bird had no obvious signs of injury and was found under some trees close to a power line. A post mortem report indicated the bird had died from trauma so it may have flown into power lines and died.

Summary of post mortem report

A sparrowhawk; weight 256g with good body condition was submitted for post mortem. A few feathers were missing at the lower right abdomen of the bird but no obvious sign of trauma. A large haemorrhage was seen at the lower right abdomen. The stomach was empty and there was haemorrhage surrounding the lungs in the thorax. The cardiovascular, urinary and nervous systems indicated no significant abnormality, and the endocrine, lymphoreticular and genital system were not examined.

Analysis : chloralose

97972	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.05	mg/kg
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Analysis : organochlorine analysis suite

97972	liver	DDE-pp		0.5	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

97972	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.01	mg/kg
97972	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0068	mg/kg
97972	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0005	mg/kg

Conclusion

Initially, it was suspected that this sparrowhawk had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some pesticides only has been undertaken on the submitted samples, given that the post-mortem findings indicated that death might be due to trauma. These tests have detected and confirmed residues of difenacoum, brodifacoum and bromadiolone in the liver of this sparrowhawk and there was also some DDE noted. These residues are consistent with exposure only and the cause of death of this sparrowhawk is due to the traumatic findings of severe abdominal trauma that were noted on post-mortem. These findings might be due to flying into overhead powerlines.