

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 27/16

RESTRICTED

PART OF STUDY FSGD-208

REGIONAL NUMBER W/16/16

OTHER REFERENCES

SENDER WAG

LOCATION Blaenavon
Gwent

GRID REFERENCE SO2308

INCIDENT DATE 25 June 2016

SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT chloralose
abuse

DATE OF REPORT 8 September 2016

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED1 pigeon carcase (bait?)
1 sample**COPIED TO**



Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
98532	pigeon carcase (bait?)	12/7/16	item:'1 x pigeon bait' 'spec no: 1'
98532	pigeon carcase (bait?)	12/7/16	item:'1 x pigeon bait' 'spec no: 1'
98533	sample	12/7/16	Sample

Summary of field data

A suspected pigeon bait was found close to a peregrine nest. An informant went to check on a peregrine nest which had three chicks present in the previous week. However, there was only one chick present on checking and there was no sign of the other two chicks. On one of the plucking posts there was what looked like a laced pigeon carcase and this was very similar to one found in the previous year (51/15, W/15/29, chloralose refers). It was described as a typical bait bird with feathers still in pin and no rings. The bird was left in situ, but covered over with a rock, for later collection by a member of the Welsh Government. This is an area with a history of poisoning incidents, which has also included the abuse of carbofuran; 77/11, W/11/14 and 99/10, W/10/17 refers.

Summary of post mortem report

There were no other mortalities associated with this incident.

Analysis : chloralose

98532	sub sample	chloralose	confirmed	0.72	µg
98532	surface wash	chloralose	confirmed	26000	µg
98533		chloralose	confirmed	0.02	µg

Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

98532	sub sample	bendiocarb	confirmed	0.021	µg
98532	surface wash	bendiocarb	confirmed	36	µg
98533		bendiocarb	confirmed	0.001	µg

Conclusion

It was suspect that this pigeon carcase was a poisoned bait. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. The carcase had some visible maize and seed present and so this was separately sub-sampled and then the remaining carcase was surface washed. These tests have detected and confirmed mainly chloralose, but also some bendiocarb in all of the samples tested. An abuse of chloralose has occurred at this location as it appears that a pigeon carcase has been intentionally laced with this pesticide and that this has been contaminated, during storage or use, with some bendiocarb as well.