

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 26/20

RESTRICTED

PART OF STUDY FSGD-211

REGIONAL NUMBER W/20/03

OTHER REFERENCES

SENDER WAG

LOCATION Aberarth, Aberaeron
Dyfed

GRID REFERENCE SN4763

INCIDENT DATE 13 March 2020

SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT metaldehyde
abuse

DATE OF REPORT 13 May 2020

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 blue pellets
1 rabbit burrow
1 sample

COPIED TO

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

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

**Samples received****Date received****Sample identifier**

99842 blue pellets
99843 sample

18/3/20 ID: ALW/3
18/3/20 ID: ALW/4

Summary of field data

It was reported that what appeared to be slug pellets was being placed in rabbit holes in an area. Somebody living in the nearby village observed a man with a plastic bag close to a rabbit warren. The person returned to the area later and found that there were blue pellets poured down what appeared to be rabbit holes. The matter was reported to the local police and they collected samples of the pellets, which are currently stored at the local Police station. Welsh Government were contacted and arrangements were made to post the samples directly to the Wildlife Incident Unit at Fera. This is a rabbit warren, close to a village.

Summary of post mortem report

There were no reported mortalities involved in this incident.

Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

99842	metaldehyde	confirmed	1.1	mg/kg
99843	metaldehyde	confirmed	0.06	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that these samples would contain metaldehyde as this is probably the most widely available slug pellet product. Laboratory analysis for this and a range of carbamate pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of metaldehyde in both samples; one sample (99842) consisted of cylindrical blue pellets and soil and the other sample (99843) consisted of vegetation material and some hair. Given the information reported, it appears that the abuse of metaldehyde has occurred at this location as the product has been intentionally placed in rabbit holes.