WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT 42/16

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REVISED REPORT

RESTRICTED

INCIDENT NUMBER 42/16

PART OF STUDY FSGD-208

REGIONAL NUMBER W/16/25

OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0112/09/16

SENDER VLA Carmarthen

LOCATION [redacted]
Merioneth

GRID REFERENCE [redacted]

INCIDENT DATE 8 September 2016

SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT aldicarb abuse

DATE OF REPORT 15 December 2016

REPORTING OFFICER [redacted]

SIGNED : [redacted]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO

[redacted]

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
98607	buzzard		21/9/16	28/B0112/09/16 : 1
98607	buzzard	tissues	21/9/16	28/B0112/09/16 : 1

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found where a dead rabbit had been found last year (62/15, W/15/34 carbofuran refers). Initially there had been three dead buzzards, but two were destroyed after the field was mowed for silage. The buzzard carcase was collected by the Police and arrangements made for a post-mortem examination. [redacted]

Summary of post mortem report

The buzzard had no identification and the age and sex were both unknown. The carcase was in fair condition and the weight was 680g. External examination of the skin and subcutis, musculoskeletal system was unremarkable. The stomach contents were green and soft with some pieces of fibre.

Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

98607	gizzard contents	aldicarb	confirmed	7.9	mg/kg

Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98607	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0006	mg/kg
98607	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.0063	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of carbamate pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of aldicarb in the gizzard content of the buzzard. Given the amount found, exposure to aldicarb is likely to be the cause of death of this buzzard. There are no approved uses for aldicarb and so abuse of the pesticide is suspected, but the bait material used is uncertain. Routine testing for anticoagulant rodenticides will be completed on the buzzard and a revised report issued if a residue is found.

The further testing for anticoagulant rodenticides has been completed and residues of difenacoum and brodifacoum were detected and confirmed in the liver of the buzzard. The amount found is consistent with exposure to the pesticides only and the cause of death is still attributed to poisoning with aldicarb.

This replaces the earlier restricted report issued on the 6 October 2016.

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