WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT 61/17

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 61/17

PART OF STUDY FSGD-209

REGIONAL NUMBER W/17/10

OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0189-10-17

SENDER VLA Carmarthen

LOCATION Rhuddlan
Denbighshire

GRID REFERENCE [redacted]

INCIDENT DATE 18 September 2017

SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue

DATE OF REPORT 15 March 2018

REPORTING OFFICER [redacted]

SIGNED : .....[redacted].....

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO [redacted]

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456 E-mail: wiis@fera.gsi.gov.uk

Fera Science Ltd. (Fera) National Agri-Food Innovation Campus, Sand Hutton, York YO41 1LZ, UK Tel +44 (0)1904 462000 Fax +44 (0)1904 462111 info@fera.co.uk www.fera.co.uk

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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
98895	buzzard		14/11/17	APHA: 28-B0189-10-17, spec 1
98895	buzzard	tissues	14/11/17	APHA: 28-B0189-10-17, spec 1

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found in a garden. On inspection it had no obvious signs of injury and so poisoning was suspected. The incident was reported to the police and the Welsh Government. The bird was then collected and stored in a freezer awaiting analysis.

Summary of post mortem report

A buzzard, weight 868gms with good body condition and a moderate degree of autolysis was submitted for post mortem. The oesophagus contained a piece of tissue resembling part of a frog and the stomach contained some broken-up tissue resembling muscle. No abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen.

Analysis : chloralose

98895	kidney	no chloralose detected	detection limit	0.009	mg/kg

Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite

98895	gizzard contents	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.002	mg/kg

Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

98895	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.07	mg/kg

Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98895	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0002	mg/kg
98895	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.0002	mg/kg
98895	liver	flocoumafen	confirmed	0.0001	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of brodifacoum, bromadiolone and flocoumafen in the liver tissue from this buzzard. However, the amounts found are at a level considered to be consistent with background exposure only and they are not considered to be the cause of death of this buzzard. Therefore, the cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain.

Fera Science Ltd. (Fera) | National Agri-Food Innovation Campus, | Sand Hutton, York YO41 1LZ, UK | Tel +44 (0)1904 462000 Fax +44 (0)1904 462111 | info@fera.co.uk www.fera.co.uk