WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

36/10

The Food and Environment Research Agency

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER

36/10

PART OF STUDY

FSGD-100

REGIONAL NUMBER

W/10/05

OTHER REFERENCES 29-B0047-10-10

SENDER

VLA Aberystwyth

LOCATION

Montgomery Montgomeryshire

GRID REFERENCE

INCIDENT DATE

8 April 2010

SUSPECTED CAUSE

OF INCIDENT

background residue

DATE OF REPORT

15 June 2010

REPORTING OFFICER

SIGNED: ...

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

buzzard

COPIED TO





THE STREET

Samples received

Date received Sample identifier

85041

buzzard

tissues

14/4/10

VLA ref 29-B0047-04-10

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found in a field pond. There is a pheasant shoot nearby.

Summary of post mortem report

An adult female buzzard was submitted weighing 1 Kg in a good body condition with moderate autolysis. There was approximately 5cc of blood tinged fluid present in the abdominal cavity. There was a good layer of subcutaneous fat over the keel bone. No food was present in the crop but the proventriculus contained grey coloured ingesta. No other lesions in the bird.

Analysis: carbamate (LC) analysis suite

85041	gizzard contents	no carbamate (LC) detected	detection limit	80.0	mg/kg
Analysis : chloralose-alpha					
85041	kidney	no chloralose-alpha detected	detection limit	0.2	mg/kg
Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite					
85041	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite					
85041 85041	liver liver	brodifacoum bromadiolone	confirmed confirmed	0.029 0.0048	mg/kg mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for a range of likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a small residue of brodifacoum and bromadiolone in the liver of this buzzard. The amounts found are probably consistent with exposure, rather than the cause of death of the bird, although it is of concern that exposure to brodifacoum has occurred. Therefore, the cause of death of this buzzard remains uncertain.