

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT



62/14

The Food & Environment
Research Agency

INCIDENT NUMBER 62/14
PART OF STUDY FSGD-195
REGIONAL NUMBER W/14/17
OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0111/08/14
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION [REDACTED] Brecon
Pembrokeshire
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 11 August 2014
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT starvation
DATE OF REPORT 30 October 2014

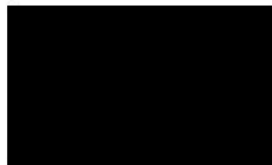
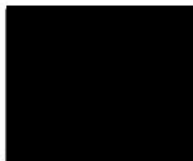
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED :

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO



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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
97667	buzzard	22/8/14	VLA:28/B111-08-14, spec ref: 1
97667	buzzard tissues	22/8/14	VLA:28/B111-08-14, spec ref: 1

Summary of field data

A dead buzzard was found just inside woodland. The bird appeared to be intact and there were no maggots on the carcase, but it was decomposed. Welsh Government arranged to collect the carcase and the area was inspected, but nothing suspicious was seen.

Summary of post mortem report

A buzzard, of unrecorded sex and weight 745g, was submitted for post-mortem. It was in emaciated body condition and severe autolysis. The pectoral muscles were wasted and there were maggots on the skin. There were maggots free within the abdomen. The crop, proventriculus and gizzard were empty. No other abnormalities were seen.

Analysis : organochlorine analysis suite

97667	liver	no organochlorine detected	detection limit	0.5	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

97667	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.03	mg/kg
97667	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.009	mg/kg

Conclusion

Initially it was suspected that this buzzard had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples, but no significant residues from the compound groups tested for were found. However, there was a small residue of difenacoum and brodifacoum noted in the liver and this is considered to be consistent with exposure only. Therefore, given this result and the findings on post-mortem, it appears that this buzzard died due to starvation.