



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Incidents Involving Pesticides & Animals

Freephone 0800 321 600
Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme

Risks to Animals from Pesticides



This leaflet explains an important government initiative called the Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme which aims to identify harmful effects of pesticides on animals.



The Scheme is concerned with incidents resulting from both the correct or incorrect use of pesticides and most of these are reported by members of the public.

The Scheme helps to safeguard wildlife and pets in both the town and countryside.

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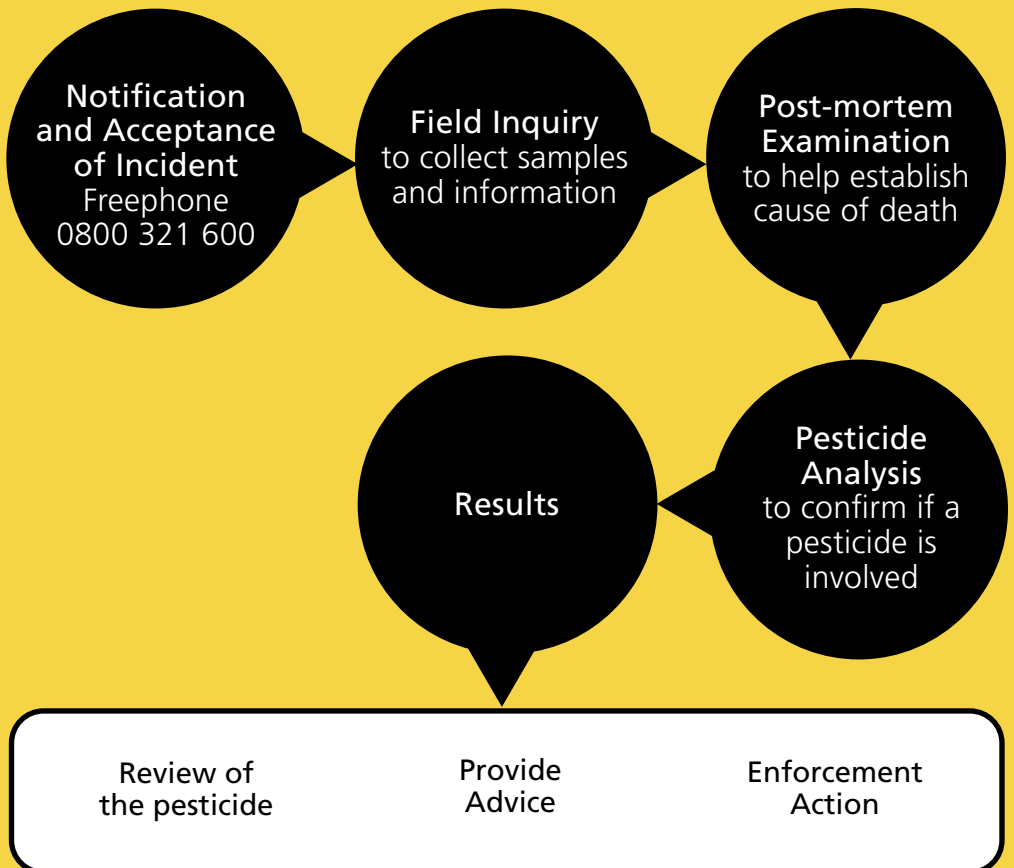
You can help by reporting

- All animals suspected to have been poisoned by pesticides
- Any spillages of pesticide such as granules or pellets
- Possible poisonous baits
- Suspected poisoning of bees

Information you should provide

- The location of the incident
- The number and type of casualties or suspected baits
- Why you believe pesticides are involved
- Your name and a daytime telephone number

How the Scheme works



Details of the Scheme

Notification of an incident to freephone 0800 321 600. This is usually by members of the public. During out of hours a message can be left on the answer machine. A Welsh Government Wildlife Advisor will contact you as soon as possible. Remember to leave your daytime telephone number.

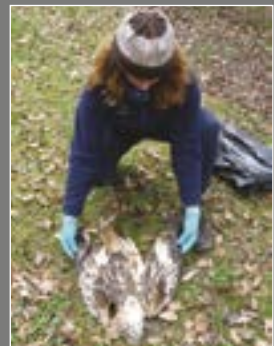
Field Inquiries of accepted incidents are carried out by a Wildlife Advisor who will normally visit the area and collect any animal carcasses, samples of pesticides and relevant information. Where appropriate this may involve other organisations.

Examination of dead animals by the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency aims to establish the cause of death. Incidents involving animals which have died of non-pesticide causes such as disease, starvation and/or physical injury, will not be taken further.

Pesticide Analysis will be carried out by a specialist unit at the Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera) to identify and interpret the significance of any pesticides found.

Results are considered by the Welsh Government who will determine if approved use, careless misuse or deliberate, illegal abuse of pesticides is involved. The Welsh Government will work in collaboration with the police and then decide if any action should be taken.

If appropriate, there are a number of options that can be considered including advising on safe use, taking enforcement measures or if necessary, changing the conditions of use of a pesticide.



Safety Concerns

Do not handle animal casualties, suspected baits, pesticides or pesticide containers. Where it is safe to do so, cover dead animals, baits or pesticides.

Never unblock a badger sett or fox earth since these may have been gassed. These situations are extremely dangerous and require a specialist response.

Always seek immediate veterinary assistance for your pets or other animals if you suspect that they have been poisoned.

Always read and follow all the label instructions when storing and using pesticides. Each year, animals are poisoned due to the careless use of pesticides in the countryside, towns and private gardens. Remember that all pesticides pose a risk if they are not used in accordance with the label instructions.

Out of date products must be disposed of safely. Always keep pesticides in their original containers. Information on the storage and disposal of pesticides can be found at www.pesticides.gov.uk.



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Welsh Government

Wildlife Management

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Wildlife Incident Unit

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Email: pesticides@hse.gsi.gov.ukwww.pesticides.gov.uk**National Bee Unit,
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The Partnership for Action against Wildlife Crime is a multi-agency body comprising representatives of the organisations involved in the work against wildlife crime. The Welsh Government is a government partner organisation.