

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

147/08

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

RESTRICTED



CENTRAL SCIENCE
LABORATORY

INCIDENT NUMBER 147/08
PART OF STUDY PGD-310
REGIONAL NUMBER W/08/33
OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0095/11/08
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Bryn, nr Cwmafan
Glamorgan
GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]
INCIDENT DATE 7 November 2008
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT aldicarb
abuse
DATE OF REPORT 9 March 2009

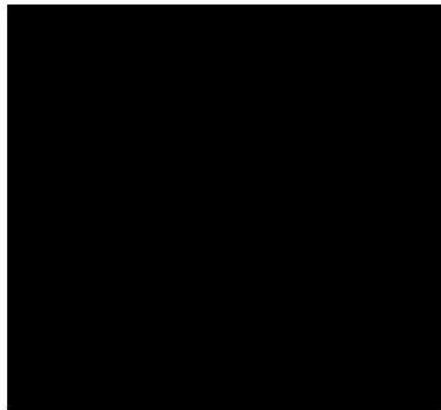
REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 buzzard

COPIED TO



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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
77585	buzzard	tissues	12/11/08	28/B0095/11/08

Summary of field data

A buzzard was found dead on Forestry Commission land. There was rubbish found around the site. There was no visible signs of gun shot and it was suspected that the bird might have been poisoned. The head of the bird was missing and may have been eaten. The bird was collected by a PC and taken to the VLA.

Summary of post mortem report

A buzzard, with identification L000047829 and weight 1.1kg was submitted for post-mortem. There was severe autolysis, but the bird was in good body condition. A large amount of food was present in the crop and the tissue present appeared to be similar to liver. No other lesions could be found and there was good fat reserves and muscle over the keel bone appeared to be adequate.

Analysis : carbamate (LC) analysis suite

77585	crop	aldicarb	confirmed	2	mg/kg
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Analysis : chloralose-alpha

77585	kidney	no chloralose-alpha detected	detection limit	0.2	mg/kg
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Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite

77585	crop	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.2	mg/kg
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Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

77585	liver	no rodenticide detected	detection limit	0.1	mg/kg
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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 aldicarb in the crop and the amount found is likely to have caused the death of this buzzard. Abuse of aldicarb is suspected, because following 31 December 2007 there are no approved uses for this pesticide. However, it is not certain where, or with what bait material, the buzzard was exposed to aldicarb.