

WILDLIFE INCIDENT UNIT

93/21



Original thinking... applied

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 93/21
PART OF STUDY FSGD-213
REGIONAL NUMBER W/21/17
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0062-05-21
SENDER APHA Carmarthen VIC
LOCATION Rhydymain, Dolgellau
Merioneth
GRID REFERENCE SH8324
INCIDENT DATE 10 May 2021
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT background residue
DATE OF REPORT 30 September 2021

REPORTING OFFICER



SIGNED :

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 goshawk

COPIED TO



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Samples received			Date received	Sample identifier
100375	goshawk		26/5/21	28/B0062/05/21
100375	goshawk	tissues	26/5/21	28/B0062/05/21

Summary of field data

██████████ found a dead goshawk ██████████. There appeared to be no obvious sign of injury and the finder was suspicious that it had been poisoned. The carcass was collected and stored in a freezer at a Police station and Welsh Government were contacted. Arrangements were made to transfer the carcass to the APHA for an examination.

Summary of post mortem report

A female goshawk of weight 815g and emaciated body condition with moderate autolysis was submitted for post-mortem. The pectorals were wasted and the keel bone prominent. There was a small amount of black soft content coating the stomach lining. There were no abnormalities of the remaining body systems seen.

Analysis : rodenticide & chloralose analysis suite

100375	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.021	mg/kg
100375	liver	bromadiolone	confirmed	0.036	mg/kg
100375	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.033	mg/kg

Conclusion

It was suspected that this goshawk had been poisoned, although the post-mortem noted that it was emaciated and had not eaten recently. Therefore, laboratory analysis for chloralose and a range of anticoagulant rodenticides only has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed residues of bromadiolone, brodifacoum and difenacoum in the liver of this goshawk, but these amounts are consistent with background exposure levels only. The actual cause of death of this goshawk is uncertain, although starvation may have played a part in its death.

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