Poisonings Diagnosed in Blackbirds at the National Wildlife Health Center

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Diagnosis of Poisoning Cases

- **History**
  Multiple, rapid mortalities

- **Necropsy**
  Good body condition, no signs of infectious disease

- **Laboratory analysis**
  Cholinesterase analysis
  Analysis of stomach contents & tissues
Blackbird Species Received for Necropsy

- Red-winged: 191
- Brewer’s: 39
- Tricolored: 24
- Yellow-headed: 23
- Rusty: 11
- Yellow-shouldered: 6

Total: 294
Diagnostic Findings in Blackbirds

N = 55 Cases

- Poisonings 44%
- Diseases 13%
- Trauma 22%
- Undetermined 13%
- Miscellaneous 9%
Toxins Identified

- Anticholinesterase pesticides 15
- Strychnine 5
- 4-aminopyrididine 2
- Selenium 1
- Salt 1
## Anticholinesterase Pesticides

- **Carbofuran**: 3
- **Famphur**: 4
- **Monocrotophos**: 3
- **Parathion**: 1
- **Undetermined***: 4

*Cholinesterase depression, but no chemistry analysis (3) or no compound identified (1)*
Some Resources

Avian Incident Monitoring System

AIMS Database Search Results
You searched for: Rusty Blackbird

New Simple Search  New Advanced Search

Your AIMS Database query returned 2 Records.

Risk Assessment Literature

American Bird Conservancy
Conserving wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Environmental Quality

Avian Incident
Monitoring System

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event ID</th>
<th>Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Pesticide(s)</th>
<th>Sources</th>
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<td>04/01/1991</td>
<td>King George</td>
<td>Rusty Blackbird</td>
<td>Carbofuran</td>
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