

DIAGNOSTIC CASE REPORT

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY-BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER-HONOLULU FIELD STATION
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Case Number: 21136

Submitter Name:

Mr. George Balazs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
1845 Wasp Blvd Bldg 176
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
United States

Species submitted (n):

Turtle: Green (1)

Location:	Laniakea	DateCollected:	07/19/2008
Area:	Honolulu	DateSubmitted:	7/22/2008
State:	Hawaii	DateReceived:	7/22/2008
Country:	United States	DateExamined:	7/22/2008

SPECIMENS SUBMITTED: Carcass-Frozen

History: This scavenged carcass was found on Laniakea Beach on Oahu. It appeared to have been slaughtered. MTRP tag on LHF - 502E4C2703. Other identification - L20, Honeygirl.

Findings: These were remains of an adult female in good post mortem and body condition as evidenced by layers of fat on the intestinal wall and carapace. The muscles from the pectoral girdles had been picked clean of meat (knife marks present on one girdle) as was the plastron. Bruising and bleeding was seen in ventral neck muscle, connective tissue underlying skin of front flipper, and portions of remaining muscle attached to plastron. Small amounts of unidentified algae were present in the small and large intestines.

Final diagnosis: Accession 1-Scavenged.

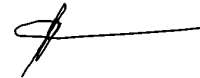
Comments: This animal was butchered and muscle and viscera taken. The bruising in skeletal muscle was focal and mild and cannot, by itself, explain the cause of death. The good body condition along with lack of lesions in organs available for examination indicates this animal died rapidly and did not suffer from a chronic disease.

Management: This case was referred to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Report Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 9/9/2008

Necropsy report: Enclosed

Copies of this report sent to:



If you have questions regarding this case, contact Thierry M. Work MS, DVM, MPVM at 808-792-9520. Include above Case Number. Diagnostic findings may not be used for publication without the pathologist's knowledge and consent.

NOTE: Information in this report supersedes any information from previous reports regarding this case

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER
NECROPSY REPORT**

Submitter Name:

Mr. George Balazs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
1845 Wasp Blvd Bldg 176
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
United States

Case: 21136
Accession: 1
Date Collected: 07/19/2008
Date Examined: 7/22/2008
Prosector: T. M. Work
Pathologist: T. M. Work

Signalment-Morphometrics-History

CONDITION: (Good) POSTMORTEM: (Good) EUTHANASIA: (Not euthanized)
TAG TYPE: (Other band) TAG NO.: (502E4C2703)
SPECIES: (Turtle: Green) AGE: (Adult) SEX: (Female)

COLLECTION-SITE: (Laniakea) AREA: (Honolulu) STATE: (Hawaii) COUNTRY: (United States)

HISTORY: This partial carcass was found on Laniakea Beach on Oahu. It appeared to have been slaughtered. MTRP tag on LHF - 502E4C2703. Other identification - L20, Honeygirl.

External/Internal

EXTERNAL: The carcass consisted of head, shell, and attached right front flipper. The head was removed by NMFS. Two acromions were found separately. The plastron and a segment of intestine were found in shallow water. More intestines were attached to one of the acromions. The materials presented for necropsy included carapace with head, plastron, right front flipper including humerus, both rear flippers, and both pectoral girdles. Viscera were missing save for portions of right lung, both kidneys, ovaries, and segments of large and small intestines.

INTERNAL: There is hemorrhage in the anterior right portion of the plastron. The plastron fat and muscle were scraped away. There is bleeding in the musculature of the left cranial portion of the plastron. There appears to be knife blade scraping 5 cm long on the right girdle acromion. There are no humeri. There is clotted blood within the right pectoral girdle. The left girdle cartilage has been cut away cleanly as with a knife. There is a large amount of mesentery fat. There is bruising on the right front flipper. There is bruising under the ventral right front flipper skin. The oviducts measure 25 and 28 cm. There are multiple developing follicles ranging from 1-6 cm. There is hemorrhage on the ventral neck muscle. Three quarters of the right lung is present. 50% of the small intestines were examined (40 cm + 92 cm). 20% of the large intestines examined (31 cm + 30 cm). Gut fill was less than 10%.

PRELIMINARY DIAGNOSIS: Butchered carcass.

Samples

SECIMENS RECEIVED: Carcass-Frozen.

Laboratory Results

COMMENTS:This animal was butchered and muscle and viscera taken. The bruising in skeletal muscle was focal and mild and cannot, by itself, explain the cause of death. The good body condition along with lack of lesions in organs available for examination indicates this animal died rapidly and did not suffer from a chronic disease.

Final Diagnosis (in order of importance)

Diagnosis	Topog	Morpho	Etiol	Funct	Dis	Link
1. Scavenged	()	(M58080)	()	()	()	()

Diagnostic findings may not be published without the knowledge and consent of the pathologist.

Milt Code: (Other)