

The main reasons of death (n = 78) within the Bearded Vulture network
(1978 - 2009)

(Total number of death cases n = 90)

Aspergillosis	21
Aspergillosis + life age related deficits (arteriosclerosis/heart disease)	15
Trauma	9
Bacterial infections	8
Intoxication with lead	7
Unknown	6
Goiter	5
Intoxications (carbofuran, rat poison)	4
Foreign bodies	3
	78

Fragments of lead in the body of a roe deer



Released birds

DORAJA, female,
BG 465

* 04.03.2005, released 02.06.2005 Großglockner, Austria

Nov. 05: perched on top of a church tower in Berchtedgaden, Germany

23.12.05: caught close to Hallein, Salzburg, exhausted, transferred to Salzburg Zoo

29.12.2005: transferred to RFZ - too weak to land at a perch, 50cm above the ground, although the bird fed nicely.

02.01.2006: x-ray examination brought no results. The bird behaved normally.

Lead (blood sample): 3,057 ppm

x-ray examination of the pellets revealed parts of semi jacketed bullet.

Therapy: Ca Titriplex for 7 days

After 3 days: using of perches

After 6 days: flying again but strong moulting after treatment. Therefore:

Release on 10. 08. 2006 at Großglockner. Survived up to now and is tracked by satellite telemetry (transmitter at one feather of the tail).

IKARUS, male,
BG 557

* 05.03. 2008, released 19.06.2008 Martell Valley, Italy
observed landing at roofs.

17.12.2008: recaptured

January 2009: transferred to RFZ

18.02.2009: Lead (blood sample): 4,75 ppm

Therapy: Ca Titriplex for 7 days

Release on 20.06.2009 at Martell Valley, Italy

Birds in captivity, fed with shot rabbits and wild ungulates

BG 011, male, * 1979 died 2002

First symptoms in January 2002: ataxie, lethargy.

15,6 ppm!

Treatment: Ca Titriplex 25mg/kg p. o., 4 days

Bird died

BG 173, female, * 1992, died 2001

Symptoms: Dyspnoe, lethargy

x-ray: small parts of lead visible

Bird died although it was treated

BG 054, female, * 1982

8,75 ppm

Bird survived with treatment

BG 087, male, * 1986

2,99 ppm

Bird survived with treatment

Critical value (after Heidenreich 1996, page 162)

0,6 ppm

Therapy

**Ca Titriplex p. 0. 7 days
oral application means less stress for the bird!**