



KENYA PLANT HEALTH INSPECTORATE SERVICE

INTERNAL MEMO

Ref: KEPHIS/HQ/1/226/51

DATE: 3rd December, 2024

To: Managing Director

Note my comments *[Signature]* 13/12/2024

Thro': Director Corporate services Forwarded *[Signature]* 06/12/2024

From: Deputy Director, Security

SUBJECT: NYERI PERIMETER FENCE VANDALISM ASSESSMENT REPORT

Introduction.

KEPHIS Nyeri Station recently was allotted about 20 acres of land by County Government of Nyeri and was secured all round by a 12ft chain link - reinforced with a barbed wire and 3 guarding personnel deployed by a CATCH contracted security company mandated with protecting the farmland and its assets inclusive of the fence.

On 10th November, 2024. Vandalism report by Catch security service was received of chain-link damage by unknown individuals at the Eastern side of the farmland bordering the riverbank farms where about 200ft of chain-link was vandalized and taken. A day later on search a small piece of chain link measuring about 50ft was recovered inside the riverbank green plantains well rolled. All these incidents were reported to police, contracted security company and KEPHIS Management.

The farmland security was assessed on Thursday 21st November, 2024 on the following areas: farm security setup, guarding strength, risks and vulnerabilities exposure, and immediate & future mitigation measures suggested.

A. FARMLAND SECURITY ASSESSMENT.

No	Area	Action	Assessment
1.	Vulnerable Areas Identification	-Perimeter Inspection	Walking along the entire perimeter fence; weak spots such as broken fences as felt by tree in REREC border points, presence of vegetation obstructing visibility, lower side areas terrain and fence vandalized and an intrusion point that appear easy to access the farm land through.

		-Access Points	The main farm land gate was evaluated as insecure with no access control measures or padlock to lock during guards patrolling. Road access is good with no other access points to the farm.	Why could they have organized for further?
2.	Current Security Measures	Fencing Type	Examining the material and height of the existing fencing (chain link, concrete posts). Assessing its effectiveness against trespassers and withstanding vandalism shows weak concrete posts and poor soil structure and terrain.	
		Condition of Fencing	Visible evidence of damages by suspected vandal's compromises security.	
		Lighting	There is absolutely NO lighting along the perimeter fence, and even at the access points to deter criminal activity during night-time.	
3.	Assessment of Vandalism Patterns	Past Incidents	No documented evidence linking this first incident with any past incidents of vandalism or theft. However, a week later a repeat of same incident of chain link vandalism in the same location and same manner shows correlation with previous incidents. Analysis on the methods used by offenders and the timing of these incidents shows elements of a well-planned offence or a colluded inside job with a commercial agenda.	There has been
		Nearby Risks	Random inquiry if there are patterns of criminal activity in the surrounding area that might have impacted on the farmland shows positive indication with reported incidents of metal vandalism at Kenya School of Agriculture, REREC station. The suspected vandals motive seems to be commercial upwards pricing of scrap metals.	
4.	Technology Integration	CCTV Cameras	No technological integration such as CCTV Cameras, Future consideration of installing surveillance cameras at strategic locations of the farmland to cover vulnerable areas and access points while being visible enough to deter criminals.	Really?
		Motion Sensors	Implementation of motion-activated solar lights or alarms that can alert the guards on unauthorized access into the farmland.	OK
		Google remote button	Application of guard patrol management system, which will enhance continuous and timely patrolling within designated areas.	OK by catch?
5.	Engagement with Local Authorities	Law Enforcement	KEPHIS Nyeri Station managers have close partnership with local law enforcement (Police station). CATCH Security needs more closeness with police to understand trends in criminal activities within the station and beyond. They should have an open line of communication regarding security concerns.	OK

Why was this not reported to M.D? What action was taken?

		Community Watch Programs:	No known Join or community watch groups responsible for security mandated to sharing information and collaborate on safety initiatives. Stakeholders residing within Kenya school of Agriculture Nyeri and neighborhood needs a collaborative security watch and information programs.
6.	Physical Barriers	Security Fencing	With repeat of vandalism, consideration of upgrading to higher security fencing with anti-climb features or adding additional barriers like concertina wires, hedges or ditches.
		Barbed Wire or Electric Fencing	Long term evaluation on the legality and safety of reinforcement of perimeter fence using barbed wire or electric fencing to deter intrusion.
7.	Awareness and Training	Staff Training	Nyeri station staff were trained on 21 st November, 2024 on Security awareness and asset protection. Continuous training of staff on security protocols, including how to report suspicious activity and handle potential theft or vandalism situations needs to be done.
		Signage	No warning signage. Use clear signage to indicate that the property is protected and that trespassers will be prosecuted needs to be put on visible points within the perimeter fence.
8.	Regular Maintenance	Routine Checks	No schedule regular inspections of the entire perimeter fence, access points, and security systems to ensure they are in good condition by the station farmland management.
		Repairs	Quickly addressing of vandalism or damage to the fence and security systems to avoid further vulnerabilities was evidenced (Took more than a week). Future quick response less than 3 days in repairs is advised.
9.	Insurance and Recovery Plans	Insurance Coverage	Future engagement of insurance to cover potential losses due to theft or vandalism. For this case, CATCH security service provider compensated by purchasing the extra-chain link and repairing the vandalized fence.
		Incident Response Plan	Nyeri station to develop a plan on how to respond to theft or vandalism, including contacting law enforcement, documenting the incident, and evaluating damages.
10.	Community Relationship	Communication with Neighbors:	Nyeri station to build strong relationships with neighboring farmers and landowners to create a network of vigilance and support.
11.	Contracted Security TORs	CATCH Security Company	Contracted security company needs to <u>review</u> and <u>keep up</u> to date terms of reference as per the contractual agreements in the daily delivery of service in the farmland.

?
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 ?
 This is the work of catch security?
 who is responsible?

OK
 catch security to insure vehicles?
 DD Security to develop Incident Response Plan to keep the OK

To implement fully To R/S as per agreement

B. MITIGATION MEASURES

1. Immediate Mitigation Measures.

CATCH SECURITY COMPANY ACTIONS

- Full-time continuous **patrolling** by contracted CATCH security guards. OK
- CATCH Security company to take full **compliance of their obligation** as per the signed contract i.e. staff visiting and vehicle bookings. OK
- **Proper supervision** and daily reporting of the station guarding assignment as per the description of service in the signed contract. OK
- Complete **kitting of day/night guards** with raincoats, gumboots, umbrellas, and heavy coats for cold seasons. ~~By whom? catch security goes~~ OK
- Guard force **continuous training** on security protocols and standards. OK
- Vandalized fence **repairs** by the contracted security company. OK
- CATCH Security company purchase for their night guards' **Super bright long range portable rechargeable torches**. OK
- Contracted security company procure **guard patrol management system** which will enhance continuous and timely patrolling within the farmland. OK
- Contracted company to place **warning signage** across the perimeter fence with the following warning "**Trespasser will be prosecuted**". OK
- Timely **payments** of guards' salaries. OK
- Weekly and monthly written reports of overall security challenges. OK

KEPHIS ACTIONS

- Purchase of **2 padlocks** for main gate locking. OK
- Temporary **construction of pit latrine** for security guards and farm staff/casuals working in the farmland. OK
- Erection of **temporary guarding house** at the far corner lower fence (Vandalized area). OK
- Addition of **2 more guards** 1 day and 1 night to assist in patrolling. what for? justify

- 2 Meters clearance of bush around inner part of perimeter fence *OK*
- Staff **continuous training** on security awareness and asset protection. *OK*
- Procurement of **motion activated solar lights** strategically placed in the lower part of fence and access points. *OK*
- Enhanced external perimeter fence reinforcement with **barbed/concertina wire** to prevent intrusions. *I thought it is late? What extra security will it provide?*
- Daily **visit and patrolling** of the farm by KEPHIS staff. *OK*
- **Stakeholders engagement and liaisons** with administrations such as Police, Administrators and Area chiefs on issues of security. *OK*
- Intentional **neighbors' engagement** on issues of security and safety of the farmland. *DP Security to take lead*

2. Future/Long term Mitigation Measure

- K-Apple plantations across the entire perimeter fence from inside part.
- Erection of electric fence across the farm in-case vandalism persists.
- Complete lighting of the farm with electrical or solar lighting
- Full bush/scrubs clearance and pruning of tree's branches in the farmland.
- Complete ploughing and plantations of low-lying crops I.e. beans
- Consideration of farm tenure management system with known staff. *-I don't understand this*
- Development of incident response plan for the farm land *-DP Security to lead.*

Full application of guard management system stationed in key positions within the farm. *OK*

Engagement of armed police officers to protect farm crops and assets against vandalism. *??*

- Continuous engagement with locals, administration and police. *OK*
- Full flood lighting across/within the farm *9*
- Proper management of contracted security service with clearly defined mandate and obligations. *Is not clear now?*

- Stations farm committee to develop farm management systems protocols and device measures targeted at addressing key security issues.

Conclusion.

Based on the assessment, Nyeri station-farmland needs a comprehensive security plan tailored to protect farmland against vandalism and theft. The reported incidents are humanly preventable and thus contracted security company be held responsible and obligated to compensate the vandalized property.

Regular reviews and updates to the security measures at the station is critical for future security management of the farmland. This will further enhance the defense against potential current and future threats.

Report Prepared By;



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