

RURAL CRIME PREVENTION TIPS



Produced by



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SECURING FARM VEHICLES & MACHINERY

- At the end of your working day:
 - Remove all GPS guidance, receivers, aerials or antenna globes from each vehicle or machine.
 - Remove the keys from all the vehicle ignitions, and store them in a secure place away from the vehicles.
 - Reverse any trailers up to a solid object, such as a wall, and place a bucket or something heavy over the hitch to prevent removal.
- Mark your vehicles and machinery with UV pen, engrave your postcode and/or use DNA property marking.
- Record your machinery serial numbers, this could be by taking photos.
- Register your vehicles with a security marking scheme and fit trackers where possible.
- Consider fitting isolating systems to all farm vehicles to prevent theft e.g. fuel and battery isolators.
- Consider fitting a battery-operated alarm to vehicles.
- Remove trailer wheels if the trailer is not in use. Store the wheels in a lockable container or shed.
- Secure vehicles by using locking devices, fixed ground anchors and/or security posts.



SECURING FARM BUILDINGS

- Consider installing security lighting, CCTV with sensors and/or Passive Infrared (PIR) sensor alarms on the perimeter and fit alarms inside the building or premises.
- Keep vehicles and equipment hidden from view by covering windows.
- Lock all buildings – where possible using locks designed to secure outbuilding doors on the outside, e.g. hasp and staple locks.



RESTRICTING ACCESS TO YOUR PROPERTY & LAND

- Fix gates to as many entrances as possible – alternatively, use concrete posts or tree stumps as access deterrents.
- Keep boundaries and entrances such as gates and fencing in good working order.
- Lock all gates where possible. If you have a public right of way, gates can be closed but not locked.
- Display security/alarm warning notices and replace when worn – to discourage theft.
- Consider installing motion detection systems to alert through text and/or video clips.

KEEPING YOUR EQUIPMENT SAFE

- Store tools and equipment in a locked and, ideally, alarmed building.
- Take photos of any power tools and record their serial numbers.
- Use property marking on equipment such as DNA microdots, ultraviolet markers, or etch your property with your postcode and house/flat number or the first three letters of your address.

CHEMICAL & FUEL STORAGE

- Surround your fuel tanks with a locked metal cage and fit wheel clamps or hitch locks to fuel bowsers.
- Ensure chemical storage areas are always locked.

SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBOURS

- Consider setting up your own WhatsApp or social media group with other neighbours/farmers to share local intelligence.
- Join your local Neighbourhood Alert System to receive free live information about incidents happening in your area via Dorset Alert: **www.dorsetalert.co.uk**
- Join your local Watch Scheme to be aware of what is happening on and around your land, helping to reduce and deter rural crime: **www.dorset.police.uk**

SECURING LAND & PROTECTING LIVESTOCK

- Install solar/battery powered cameras and gate alarms that will alert you to unauthorised access on your land.
- Invert and cap your gate hinges to stop gates being removed and/or weld any gate nuts and threads to secure fixings.
- Ensure hedges, fences and gates around the fields are well maintained and in a good state of repair.
- Tag your livestock and take photos of any particularly valuable animals. Additional methods of marking livestock are:
 - Horn brands
 - Freeze marking
 - Tattooing
- Install signage reminding owners to keep their dogs under control in fields containing livestock.
- Public Rights of Way guidance, such as whether footpaths can be separated from livestock, is available at the following website:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/public-rights-of-way-landowner-responsibilities>



REPORTING AN INCIDENT OR CRIME

999

IF LIFE IS IN DANGER
OR A CRIME IS IN
PROGRESS CALL 999

ONLINE

www.dorset.police.uk/contact-us

If a crime has already happened
or to give information about
a crime.



REPORT YOUR INTELLIGENCE

Click the 'Report Your Intelligence'
button on the homepage at
www.dorset.police.uk



Report your intelligence

Find out how to give
Dorset Police information
to help keep you safe and
catch criminals.
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BY PHONE 101 NON-EMERGENCY



FIND OUT MORE

Find more information about
reporting different rural crimes
on the Country Watch website:
www.countrywatchdorset.co.uk



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