



## Farm machinery, plant and vehicle theft

### Why is this important?

The theft of farm machinery, agricultural equipment and plant is sometimes linked to organised crime and is one of the most costly crimes effecting rural business. There can be a significant financial and emotional impact on victims and their families, impacting on animal welfare and food production.

### What do you need to do?

Farmers and members of the public should be vigilant in the countryside reporting any suspicious activity to the police noting vehicle details and descriptions. Notify the police using 999 if you suspect an offence is being committed.

### How can you prevent this?

- Keep a record of serial numbers, photograph equipment showing identity & unique features.
- Immobilise vehicles and machinery in a lockable building or out of sight with the keys removed and secured. Where possible, secure gates and block unused entrances.
- Utilise property marking and fit trackers. Consider the removal of tractor GPS systems when not in use.
- Enjoy the countryside and help protect farmers by following the countryside code.
- If you have any information regarding machinery theft please email [101@dc.police.uk](mailto:101@dc.police.uk), call 101 or Call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.
- Join Devon & Cornwall Alert, Watch schemes and local social media groups so that you can find out what is happening in your area.

The Devon and Cornwall police rural affairs team have produced a calendar which highlights rural issues throughout the year to focus problem solving activity for police, partners and public with key messages and prevention activity.

