



BUREAU VERITAS  
DELTA CORNER, TOWER A, 5TH  
FLOOR ALONG WAIYAKI WAY,  
WESTLANDS.  
P.O BOX 34378-00100 GPO  
NAIROBI-KENYA

Tel:( +254 (20) 366 9000

**Date: 10 November 2022**

JAPHETH ROTICH  
SOTIK TEA COMPANY LIMITED,  
P.O BOX PRIVATE BAG-20406

***Dear Mr. ROTICH,***

**RE: INITIAL KS1758 PART 1 CERTIFICATION AUDIT REPORT**

The Bureau Veritas K Ltd audit team wishes to express appreciation to you, the Management and technical Team at the farm, and the entire work force at Sotik Tea Company Limited, for your cooperation and hospitality while we conducted the Initial KS1758 Part 2 Standard Option 1 Certification audit at the farm on 28-31 October 2022.

The audit criteria was the KS1758 PART 2 Standard Issued: June 2019 Version: 2019-01. The farm was growing Blueberry under covered production for the local market. The assessment involved documents and records review, employees' interviews and facility inspections.

The auditor observed that the company had for the most part upheld the requirements of the KS1758 Standard on labour management and worker welfare, safety and health, Good Agricultural Practices, environment protection, and postharvest practices. Good crop husbandry practices were observed, while employees had been provided with appropriate PPE, the farm was observed to be kept in a clean and hygienic manner, and also controlled use of chemicals/pesticides.

The following positive observations were noted during the audit:

- The farm facilities had been maintained at impressive and high standards of hygiene and cleanliness.
- Documentation required by KS 1758 was maintained i.e. Procedures, risk assessments, legal compliance records, training records, Contracts, Laboratory analysis for both final products and inputs(water and soil) etc.
- Internal audits and inspections had been carried out.
- Competence of the Technical team was well demonstrated.
- Agronomic records were maintained for each production area i.e., planting, rotation, pesticides application fertilizer application, irrigation application, harvesting records, dispatch records etc.
- The farm infrastructure with regards to structures (PPP Stores, PPE stores, Staff Facilities, Irrigation Driplines, Eating areas etc.) was well maintained as per standard requirements.

Staff were interviewed on clauses about Health, Safety & Hygiene and Labour, Employment and Social Issues. For the most part the organization demonstrated high levels of compliance.

The company will however address the following improvement areas picked during this audit, as outlined in the report below.

**Classification of findings:**

- Major Musts - 01 NC's
- Minor musts – 02 NC

**Closing Remarks**

The technical team committed to address the improvement areas picked during this audit within 28 days from audit date and subsequently forward to Bureau Veritas K Ltd a compliance report detailing the corrections, corrective actions and corrective evidence taken to address the non-compliances.

Yours faithfully,  
**For Bureau Veritas K Ltd**

**Tony Mulwa**  
**Lead Auditor.**