



**KENYA PLANT HEALTH INSPECTORATE SERVICE (KEPHIS) HEADQUARTERS-
Oloolua Ridge, Karen**

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Our Ref: KEPHIS/HQ/142

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RECOMMENDATION LETTER FOR MR. HOLI KEVIN

This is to confirm that Mr. HOLI KEVIN worked in KEPHIS as an intern at the KEPHIS Headquarters and KEPHIS Plant Quarantine and Biosecurity Station (PQBS), Muguga. He was on internship for one year. During this period, Mr. Holi performed exceptionally well and familiarized himself with the organization's operations in the following areas:-

- Produce inspection at the phytosanitary inspection units which is involved in issuance of import/export documentation, electronic certification of produce and conducting inspections for import/export phytosanitary compliance.
- Pest and disease identification and diagnostics involving pathogen extraction, analysis and reporting using scientific techniques in the Molecular, Microbiology, Bacteriology, Mycology, Entomology, Virology, and Nematology laboratories.
- Field inspections and farm audits for market compliance.
- The use of Molecular biology techniques which include, DNA Barcoding, sequencing and bioinformatics for disease diagnosis and identification.
- Microbiological techniques in the analysis of various Food Microorganisms and Molecular analysis of microbial cultures.
- Virus testing and identification using mechanical inoculation, grafting on susceptible indicator plants and use of serological (ELISA) tests.
- Micro-propagation of plant germplasm and virus clean-up by use of meristem tip culture, chemotherapy and thermotherapy.
- General inspection procedures and Biosecurity regulations in the handling and management of plant material of quarantine nature as well as their containment procedures.
- Surveillance and Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) of emerging pests and diseases, monitoring, emergency response techniques, management and control systems approach.

- Advisory and recommendation farm services through stakeholders' awareness meetings in extension and farm clinic programs.
- General principles of Good Laboratory Practices (GLPs), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), maintenance of plant databases and Quality Management Systems (QMS) (under ISO 17025 and 9001:2015 systems).
- Sterilization sampling, testing and storage of soil and other plant growth mediums for greenhouse use.
- Implementation of Biosafety regulations which include Contained Use of GMOs, Environmental Release of GMOs, Import, Export and Transit of GMOs and Labeling (2012) of GMO containing material (e.g. foods and feeds) in conjunction with National Biosafety Authority (NBA).

During this entire one (1) year period, Mr. Holi proved to be hardworking, co-operative, keen to learn, a team player, honest, tireless worker, innovative, results oriented, of integrity and professionalism. He has played a pivotal role in operationalizing the Food Microbiology laboratory at KEPHIS Headquarters.

Any assistance accorded to him will be rightly deserved and highly appreciated.


Faith Ndunge

Head Biosafety and Phytosanitary Services

