

CHALLENGES OF CONTROLLING WILDLIFE IN TROPICAL COUNTRIES AIRPORTS.

George Amutete

Wildlife Control Section,
Kenya Airports Authority,
Box 19087 00501 Nairobi,
Kenya.

gamutete@yahoo.com

George.amutete@kenyaairports.ke.co

ABSTRACT

Airports in tropical countries are faced with unique wildlife problems that make wildlife hazard control a unique challenge. Most of higher taxonomical categories, which have significant implication to aviation safety, have many more species in tropical regions than in higher-latitude communities. The richness of species in tropical regions is positively correlated to diverse behavioural patterns and size both which influence the rate and severity of wildlife strikes. Unfortunately most of the portable technological innovations aimed at curbing the wildlife strike problems are generated and fine-tuned to have impact on problem species found in the higher-latitudes. This paper examines some of the challenges of controlling wildlife in airports in tropical regions and recommends that since people travel universally measures to curb wildlife menace should be researched and tested collaboratively in order to develop universal aviation safety. Thus aviation safety research and development in respect to wildlife hazards should be expanded to deserving tropical regions.