

PARDI 2 to develop agreements for growers

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PACIFIC Agribusiness Research in Development Initiative phase 2 (PARDI 2), in collaboration with Nature's Way Cooperative (NWC), is looking to develop farmer agreements for seven papaya growers.



PARDI 2 research scientist Salote WaqairatuWaqainabete said the project was designed to strengthen agricultural value chains by supporting agribusiness and traders.

“We will directly assist NWC through research and guidance in developing the farmer agreements,” she said.

“Our role is ensuring the needs of farmers and NWC is discussed and addressed and an agreed price and obligations of both parties will be one of the vital sections in the agreement.”

NWC general manager Donald Pickering said they were developing farmer agreements in order to maintain the quality of “Fiji Red” papaya.

“By implementing a farmer agreement, the farmer is guaranteed a buyer and a set price upon harvesting and delivery to NWC,” he said.

“PARDI 2 will assist NWC with formulating farmer agreements that are easy to understand and implement,” Mr Pickering added.