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Turners & Growers may increase Fijian exports



T&G looks to export Fijian papaya while heavy rain and flooding causes millions of dollars in damage to vegetable crops

New Zealand agri-business Turners & Growers (T&G) is in talks to establish exclusive buying arrangements with Fijian papaya growers.

According to local media, the company currently sources chilies for export and is now seeking farmers to grow papaya for New Zealand and Australian markets.

T&G established an office

in the country early last year to handle its imports, but is now harnessing opportunities to export Fijian produce.

The director of the Fijian business Bobby Sharma said the company would provide its farmers with seed.

Sharma said the company was also exporting eggplants sourced from farmers in Sigatoka.

Meanwhile local media has reported over 1000ha of vegetable crops in the country have been damaged by heavy rain and flooding.

It is estimated as much as 60 per cent of farmers in the Ba region have lost their crops, equating to F\$5m (US\$2.8m) in losses.