



Ministry of Agriculture

ANNUAL REPORT 2015





CORPORATE PROFILE

VISION STATEMENT

To influence market forces through vibrant and sustainable agriculture activity that reduces poverty, reduces the risks of food insecurity and increases the contribution to GDP

MISSION STATEMENT

To excel in the provision of customer focused and market driven services in the agricultural sector

VALUES

- Good Governance
- Commitment
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Impartiality
- Professionalism
- Courtesy
- Partnership
- Equity
- Responsiveness
- Responsibility
- Innovation

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE INCLUDES;

- To accelerate agricultural product diversification into crops and livestock products where competitive advantages have been identified;
- To facilitate private sector development;
- To promote food security; and
- To ensure sustainable development in the non-sugar sector

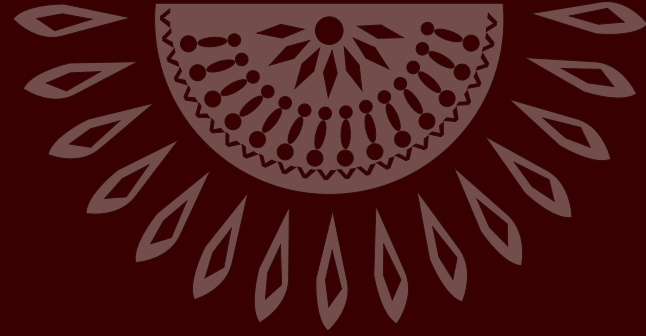
OUR CUSTOMERS

We take pride in serving our customers by implementing the 'Customer Service Charter' which sets out our commitment to providing high quality standards of services that is beyond customer expectations.

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MINISTER'S FOREWORD



Hon. Inia B. Seruiratu
Minister for Agriculture, Rural &
Maritime Development and
National Disaster Management

The Publication of the Ministry's achievements is of vital importance to allow both an internal analysis of our progress and the challenges we face. It provides all stakeholders with an update of the activities that the Ministry has carried out on the Agriculture Sector in 2015.

The Ministry's contribution to GDP has always been the primary concern that guided our plan for the year and we successfully achieved this by increasing the value of our GDP from \$500.4m (FJD) in 2014 to \$541.8m (FJD) in 2015 which was a growth of 8.3%.

In 2015, the Ministry embarked on a number of ambitious undertakings that were aimed at lifting the Crop and Livestock Sector to another level. It was also the first year of laying out the ground work for some of the key activities as stipulated in Fiji's 2020 Agriculture Sector Policy Agenda focusing on a theme of 'Modernizing Agriculture'.

Achievements highlighted in this report are a reflection of Government's commitment to its food security, import substitution and transformation of its production system to ensure sustainability and consistency through the whole value chain.

On this token, I would like to acknowledge the hard working staff of the Ministry for their sincere contribution throughout the year as highlighted in this report.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Inia B. Seruiratu', is positioned above a dotted line.

Mr. Inia B. Seruiratu
Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime
and National Disaster Management

ASSISTANT MINISTER'S STATEMENT



Hon. Joeli Cawaki
Assistant Minister for Agriculture,
Rural and Maritime Development
and National Disaster

It is my pleasure to offer my sentiments for the Ministry of Agriculture's Annual report for the year 2015. It is therefore coherent to begin with acknowledging the core role of the Ministry which influences the wider rural community and impacts their livelihood in a big way.

The Ministry had undergone a lot of resources and manpower shifting in 2015, as Government had set its focus on revitalizing the Agriculture Crop & Livestock Sector. This report highlights the Ministry's achievements aligned to Government's directions on the Agriculture Sector that allows for more land availability, connecting infrastructural support, as well as providing market avenues for our produce, locally and abroad.

In 2015, the Ministry rolled out the foundations of the Fiji 2020 Agriculture Sector Policy Agenda. The Agenda has enlarged the horizon of the Ministry with models aimed at modernizing Fiji's Agriculture Sector and the underlying goal of elevating the sector to new heights.

Despite limited resources and other constraints, I believe staff of the Ministry have continued to improve their performance addressing issues affecting the development of the Sector whilst identifying and exploring opportunities that are available.

I must acknowledge the contribution of the Management and staff of the Ministry for achieving another pleasing performance despite the difficult year.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Joeli Cawaki', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Hon. Joeli Cawaki
Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime and
National Disaster Management

PERMANENT SECRETARY'S STATEMENT



Mr. Uraia Waibuta
Permanent Secretary for
Agriculture

The year 2015 has been an interesting and challenging one for the Ministry of Agriculture as it focused on achieving national strategic priority goals and key development targets set out by Government for the Agriculture Crop & Livestock Sector which is aimed at 'Building a Sustainable Community'. It also takes into account Fiji's commitments in achieving the SDG's and other UN and International conventions goals.

The above goals are further complimented by the Fiji 2020 Agriculture Sector Policy Agenda, which is the guiding document for the Ministry's 2015 annual plan.

There has been a hive of activities for the Ministry in 2015, engaging in key preliminary consultations which involve public private partnership promotions, investment drives, internal capacity building, reorganization, awareness campaigns with farmers and key stakeholders.

The new focus on modernizing agriculture offers both an exciting opportunity and a challenge that set many possibilities which identifies the Agriculture sector as the mainstay and platform of Fiji's economic prosperity. The successful delivery of our 2015 activities ensures the Ministry's achievement of the Governments' vision for the agriculture sector and the livelihood of its people.

We will continue to improve our performance in addressing issues affecting the development of the agriculture sector by identifying and exploring available opportunities and being more responsive to the needs of our stakeholders.

On this note, I express my sincere appreciation to all Ministries, Development Partners and all stakeholders for their cooperation and assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture throughout the year and especially the hardworking staff of the Ministry for their dedication and hard work in making 2015 a successful year.

It is indeed my great pleasure to present the Ministry of Agriculture Annual Report – 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Uraia Waibuta', written over a horizontal line.

Mr Uraia Waibuta
Acting Permanent Secretary for Agriculture

LEGISLATED FUNCTIONS

The Ministry derived its core mandate from the Presidential Decree 2007 and is currently responsible for about 28 legislations. It is envisaged that all the acts specified under the ministerial assignment must be reviewed and ensured that there is no conflict between policy interpretations of existing acts.

STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The Ministry's functions include;

- To accelerate agricultural product diversification on crops and livestock products where competitive advantage has been identified;
- To facilitate private sector development;
- To promote food security; and
- To ensure sustainable development in the non-sugar sector.

LEGISLATIONS & REGULATIONS

The Ministry of Agriculture is guided in its daily operations by the following legislations and regulations:

Table 1: Legislations and Regulations of the Ministry

1	Agricultural Land & Tenant Act (Cap.270)	15	Fruit Export and Marketing Act (Cap 154)
2	Agriculture Marketing Authority Act (2004)	16	Ginger Council of Fiji Act 1996
3	Animals (Control of Experiment) Act (Cap.161)	17	Goat (Ear marks) Act (Cap 164)
4	Banana Export and Marketing Act (Cap 155)	18	Irrigation Act (Cap 144 A)
5	Birds and Game Protection Act (Cap 170)	19	Land Conservation and Improvement Act (Cap 141)
6	Brands Act (Cap 163)	20	Meat Industry Act (Cap 137)
7	Coconut Industry Development Authority Act 1998	21	Pesticide Act (Cap 157)
8	Cooperative Dairy Companies Act (Cap 119)	22	Pound Act (Cap 165)
9	Copra Industry Loans Act (Cap 153)	23	Protection of Animals Act (Cap 169)
10	Crop Lients Act (Cap 226)	24	Rewa Rice Limited Decree 1991
11	Dairies Act (Cap 118)	25	Stock Improvement Act (Cap 162)
12	Dogs Act (Cap 168)	26	Trespass of Animal Act (Cap 166)
13	Drainage Act (Cap 143)	27	Veterinary Surgeons Act (Cap 257)
14	Fencing Act (Cap 167)	28	Promulgation of Biosecurity Act 2008

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Mrs. Maca Tulakepa **Deputy Secretary Corporate Service & Planning**

Mrs. Tulakepa joined the Ministry of Agriculture in December, 2014. Her role is to provide sound policy and management advice to the Permanent Secretary to fully execute its constitutional power and responsibilities. Coordinate the formulation of the Ministry's Planning Framework, Corporate Policies and ensure prudent financial management and human resource that enhance accountability, efficiency and effectiveness.



Mrs. Miliakere Nawaikula **Acting Deputy Secretary Agriculture Development**

Mrs. Nawaikula began her career in the Ministry in 1992 as a Research Officer and later promoted as Director Research in 2011. In 2015, she was appointed as Acting DSAD. Her main role as DSAD is to support the Minister and PS in mapping strategic direction, policy development and advice as captured in Key Performance Indicators of Strategic Development Plan and Annual Corporate Plan.



Mr. Pauliasi Tuilau **Acting Chief Economist**

Mr. Tuilau was appointed as Acting Chief Economist of the Ministry of Agriculture in 2015, heading the Economic Planning & Statistics Division. The Division under his leadership plays an important role in evaluating project proposals, monitor and control ongoing projects, preparation of the ministry's budget, formulation of policy, market scoping, and compilation of agriculture statistics.



Mr. Jone Sovalawa **Acting Director Crop Extension**

Mr. Sovalawa has been acting as Director Crop Extension since February 2015. He is a board member of the Forestry Board and is responsible for all Crop Extension Services of the Ministry through providing advisory services and capacity building to crop farmers.



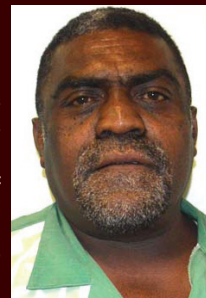
Ms. Mereseini Bou **Director Human Resources, Finance & Information**

Ms. Bou began her career in the Ministry in 2012 as Director Human Resource Finance, Information and Communication. Her role is to provide administrative, moral support to subordinate staff, formulating of plans and human resources policy, and monitoring of the administrative constraints of the Ministry.



Mr. Tomasi Tunabuna **Director Animal Health & Production**

Mr. Tunabuna began his career in the Ministry in 1986 as a livestock officer, and was appointed as Director Animal Health & Production in 2010. As Director, the Division plays an important role in providing specialist advice on livestock health & production, quarantine, research and development and regulatory matters. He is a registrar in the Fiji Veterinary Association and member of Fiji Institute of Agriculture Science.



Mr. Collin Simmon **Director Land Water Resources Management**

Mr. Simmons has been serving in the Ministry for 37 years, and was promoted as Director LWRM in 2012. The Division's responsibility is to increase crop yield and enhance food security with timely and efficient irrigation service. Director LWRM also performs the duty/role of commissioner of Irrigation as stipulated in the Irrigation Act.



Dr. Apaitia Macanawai **Acting Director Crop Research**

Dr. Apaitia Macanawai has served 14 years in the Ministry and was promoted as Acting Director Research earlier this year (2015). He provides Policy advice on Crop research matters to the Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, lead and facilitates the planning, controlling and coordination of all research activities. He is the Chief Editor of Fiji Agricultural Journal, Registrar of Pesticide and Fiji Administrator of the ICM Project.



Mr. Nacanieli Waka **Director Land Resources Planning Development**

Mr. Nacanieli Sautuca Waka has served in the Ministry for the last 32 years and was appointed as Director Land Resources Planning & Development in 2014. LRPD plays a key role in providing advice to management & stakeholders on optimum land utilization techniques and provides farm management training for both crop & livestock.



MINISTRY'S OUTPUT LINKAGE TO PCCPP PRIORITIES

This Annual Report presents the Ministry of Agriculture's achievements for the fiscal year ending December, 2015. It reports on publicly committed strategies, key actions and performance measures as outlined in the Ministry of Agriculture Annual Corporate Plan for 2015. It also reflects progress and commitments to Government direction.

The annual report demonstrates effective public performance reporting, transparency and accountability to the people of Fiji, especially farmers, donors and agri-businesses.

The Ministry's activities in 2015 were aligned to the following 5 Government's Key Pillars.

Table 2: Ministry of Agriculture's Output against the Government Key Pillars

Key Pillar(s) PCCPP	Targeted Outcome [Policy Objective]	Outcome Performance Indicators	Ministry's Output
Pillar 4 Enhancing Public Sector Effectiveness and Service Delivery.	Public Sector Reform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and review of policies and legislations. Facilitation of consultation and meetings. Increase media coverage and publications Increase coverage in technology services in rural areas. 	Portfolio leadership, Policy advice and Secretariat support
Pillar 5 Achieving Higher Economic Growth while Ensuring Sustainability.	Non Sugar Agriculture and Livestock	<p>Increase Ministry of Agriculture's contribution to GDP from 9% to 15%</p> <p>Increase value of non-sugar agriculture exports from \$406.7m to \$411m by 2015.</p> <p>Value of fruits and vegetables imports reduced from around \$130m to \$100m by 2015</p>	<p>Maintaining food security through the provision of extension and research services both for livestock and crops.</p> <p>Quick economic recovery through the implementation of Demand Driven Approach and other commodity projects.</p>
Pillar 6 Making more Land Available for Productive and Social services.	Land Resource Development and Management	Increase number of land sites for commodity purpose and are compliant to Sustainable Land Management farming practices/ concept.	Sustainable management of natural resources through flood protection programmes and other sustainable land management practices.
Pillar 7 Developing an Integrated Development Structure at the Divisional Level.	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment.	Increase percentage of women who are economically active in agriculture activities.	Ensuring equal access for women in agricultural development.
	Rural and Outer Island.	Improve provision of basic services to rural areas in terms of agriculture services.	ROI communities to meet their basic needs, improve living standards through agriculture development.
Pillar 8 Reduce Poverty to a Negligible Level by 2015.	Poverty Alleviation.	Increase the number of projects supporting young farmers.	Assist in poverty alleviation by building capacity of farmers to increase production.

2015 AGRICULTURE KEY NUMBERS

TOTAL BUDGET



ACTUAL EXPENDITURE



AGRICULTURE (Crop & Livestock) GDP



AGRICULTURE (Crop & Livestock) PRODUCTION



AGRICULTURE (Crop & Livestock) TRADE

EXPORT

(CROP & LIVESTOCK)



\$198m

IMPORT

(CROP & LIVESTOCK)



\$514m

AGRICULTURE (CROP & LIVESTOCK) SECTOR ECONOMIC REVIEW

AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL GDP

In 2015, the agriculture (crop & livestock) sector 295,532 tonnes of Crop & Livestock commodities which is 0.2% more than the production of 2014. The growth in production has increased the contribution of the sector to the National GDP from \$500.4 million (7.8%) in 2014 to \$541.9 million (8.1%) in 2015. The positive economic growth of Fiji's economy in 2015 was driven by 5 industries of which Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries contributed the highest percentage points. Crop & Livestock Sub-sector GDP growth increased by 8.3% due to increases in the production of yaqona, pineapple and coconut.

This year, the agriculture sector produced 255,451 metric tonnes of Crop Commodities which is a 0.6% increase from 2014 achievements, while the Livestock production declined by 2% this year when compared to 2014.

Cassava remained as the top agriculture commodity produced in Fiji every year since it is planted mainly for home consumption. Dalo on the other hand, is consumed mainly during functions or for commercial undertakings. Cassava is mainly produced in Tailevu and Naitasiri contributing 25% and 16% respectively to National Cassava Production this year.

This is a memorable achievement for the Ministry through the technical services, investment, technology, hard work and devotion of staff, farmers and stakeholders towards the Crop & Livestock sub-sector. While good weather played an important role, increasing yields are a direct result of improvements in crop genetics, advanced farming technologies and sound business management practices. Crop production over the past 3 years has been consistently increasing, indicating continuous progress towards

Table 3: Agriculture Gross Domestic Product At Constant Basic Price FJD (Millions)

	2013	2014 (r)	2015(p)
NATIONAL GDP	6,095	6,437	6,667
AGRICULTURE GDP	497	500	542
General Government	9	10	11
Subsistence	154	154	153
Informal	38	38	38
Non-General Government	296	298	339
• Crop	202	192	236
• Livestock	49	56	53
• Growing of Sugarcane	44	50	51

Source: Macro Table, Fiji Bureau of Statistics
(r) – revised figure (p)-provisional

Table 4: Agriculture Production (Metric Tons)

Sub-sector	2013 (Mt)	2014 (Mt)	2015 (Mt)
Crop Production	272,314	253,878	255,451
Livestock Production	42,194	40,999	40,086
Total Production	314,508	294,877	295,537

Source: Crop Extension & AH&P Quarterly Reports

Figure 1: Crop Production Distribution by Division

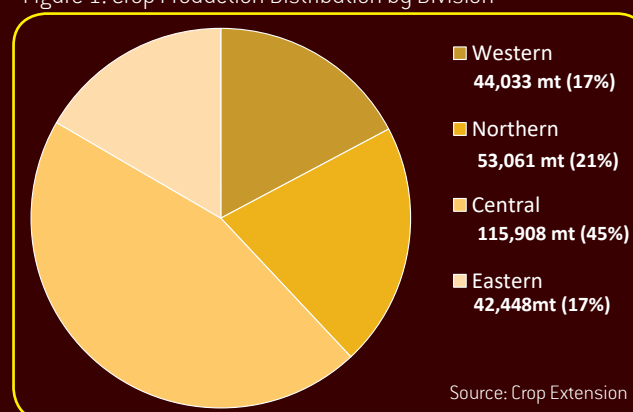
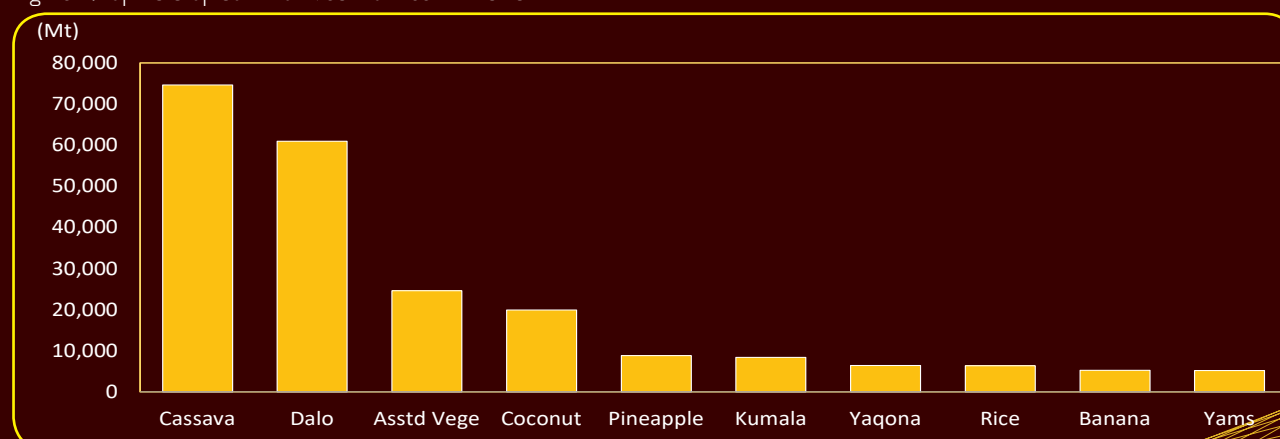


Figure 2: Top 10 Crop Commodities Produced in 2015



achieving higher economic growth while ensuring sustainability. Irrigation infrastructure continued to grow and the Ministry has partnered with farmers to develop and implement various strategies that are major contributors to these achievements.

AGRICULTURE TRADE (Crop & Livestock Sector)

The overall Crop & Livestock Sub-sector trade balance remained in deficit for the period under review. Hence the sector has a 15% decrease in trade deficit for 2015. The boost in 2015 Exports is the result of improved development of Local Produced commodities. In the same way the increase in the EPP allocated funding has boosted the production of kava, taro, eggplant and pineapple.

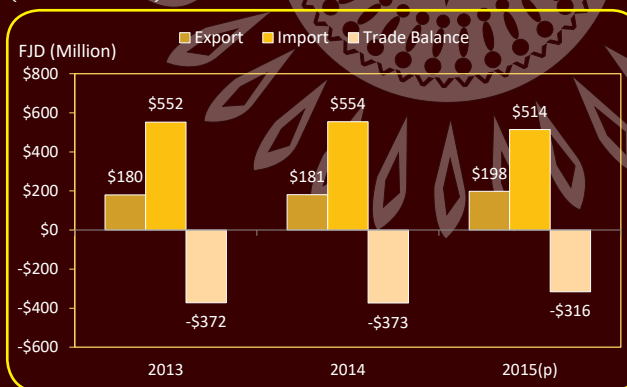
Fiji earned \$198 million (FJD) from domestic export of crops & livestock in 2015 which is 18% of the National Domestic Export Value. The value of Crop & Livestock Domestic Export for both Fresh/Chilled and Processed has increased from \$180.7 million in 2014 to \$197.9 million in 2015. This is a 10% increase as compared to the 1% increase targeted under the ACP Output of 2015.

The positive growth of the sector in export for the past three years (2013-2015) was mainly due to the expansion of market scoping more particularly to the US Market. In 2015, Crops & Livestock Commodities were exported to 47 Countries. Total number of exported commodities increased from 233 in 2014 to 245 in 2015. Total Crop and Livestock export quantities increased from 74,185mt in 2014 to 82,294mt in 2015.

The export value of Crop Commodities both in fresh/chilled and value added products increased from \$163.5 million in 2014 to \$182.5 million in 2015 which is 92% of the Total Agriculture Domestic Export. However, the Livestock Industry had a 10% decline in value exported in 2014 (\$17.2 million) when compared to 2015 (\$15.5 million).

The Crop & Livestock sector total import is valued at \$514 million which is 12% of the National Import Bill. In 2015, value of import declined by 7%. The volume of fruits and vegetables imported in 2015 decreased by 3 %.

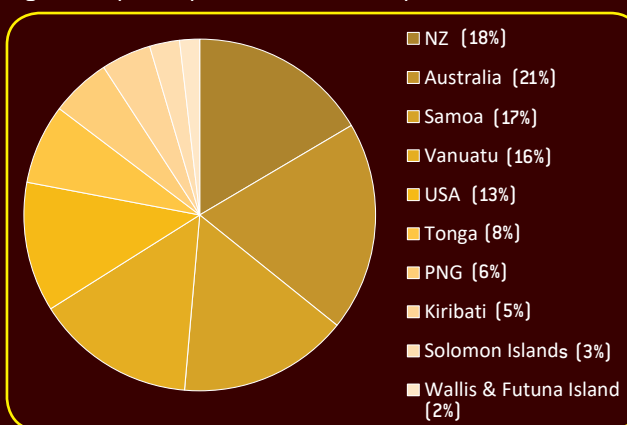
Figure 3: Agriculture (Crop & Livestock) Trade Balance (2013 – 2015)



Source: Fiji Agriculture & Rural Statistics (p): Provisional figures

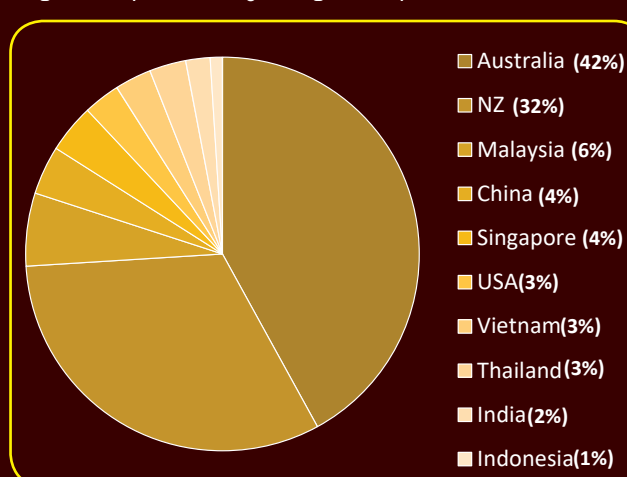
Note: Inclusive of Wheat, Flours, Biscuits, Other Flour Preparations, etc

Figure 4: Top 10 Export Destinations (Crop & Livestock)- Value



Source: Fiji Agriculture & Rural Statistics

Figure 5: Top 10 Country of Origins (Crop & Livestock)- Value



Source: Fiji Agriculture & Rural Statistics (FARS)

ACHIEVEMENTS OF MAJOR CROP COMMODITIES



Production: 60,928mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): -3%
 2015 Export:
 • Volume (6,224mt)
 • Value (\$22m FJD)
 Top Export Destination: New Zealand (2,129mt)



Production: 6,109 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 10%
 2015 Export of Fresh/Green Ginger:
 • Volume (400 mt)
 • Value (\$3.1m FJD)
 Top Export Destination: USA (161 mt)



Production: 6,443 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 66%
 2015 Export:
 • Volume (160 mt)
 • Value (\$8.86m FJD)
 Top Export Destination: New Zealand (41 mt)



Production: 74,239 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 100+%
 2015 Export:
 • Volume (1,702 mt)
 • Value (\$2.5m FJD)
 Top Export Destination: New Zealand (750mt)



Production: 8,839 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 35%
 2015 Export:
 • Volume (7 mt)
 • Value (\$10,546 FJD)
 Top Export Destination: New Zealand (6 mt)



Production: 4,201 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): -27%
 2015 Export:
 • Volume (409 mt)
 • Value (\$1.4m FJD)
 Top Export Destination: New Zealand (224 mt)

ACHIEVEMENTS OF MAJOR LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES



Production: 74 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 80%
 Total Number of Stock: 21,386
 Export of Lamb [(Fresh/Chilled/Frozen)]:

- Volume (14 mt)
- Value (\$139,935)

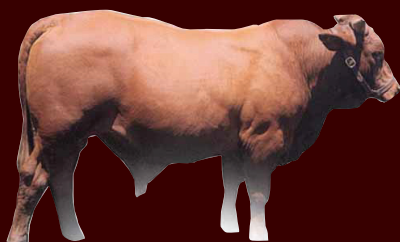
Top Export Destination: Vanuatu (9 mt)



Production: 1,469 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 47%
 Total Number of Stock: 31,182
 Export of Pork (Fresh/Chilled/Frozen):

- Volume (54 mt)
- Value (\$62,000)

Top Export Destination: Wallis & Futuna (45 mt)



Production: 3,591 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 28%
 Total Number of Stock: 39,482
 Export of Beef (Fresh/Chilled/Frozen):

- Volume (10 mt)
- Value (\$72,964)

Top Export Destination: Tuvalu (5mt)



Production: 23,400 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): 7%
 Number of Broilers Slaughtered: 9.9 million
 Export of Poultry Meat (Chicken, Duck & Geese):

- Volume (206 mt)
- Value (\$1.4m)

Top Export Destination: Vanuatu (185mt)



Production (Milk): 11.3 million litres
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): -24%
 Number Dairy Herds: 13,865
 Export of Milk (Liquid & Powdered):

- Volume (26 mt)
- Value (\$0.27 m)

Top Export Destination: PNG (11 mt)



Production: 84 mt
 Production Growth (2014 vs. 2015): -20%
 Total Number of Stock: 40,097
 Export of Goat Meat (Fresh/Chilled/Frozen):

- Volume (65 kg)
- Value (\$550)

Nauru is the only export destination.



CROP EXTENSION

OVERVIEW

In 2015, the Ministry through the Crop Extension Services managed to implement and achieve outputs that directly and indirectly impacted farmers, stakeholders and the economy as a whole. In 2015 a total of 14 Programs was assigned to Crop Extension Division with a total budget allocation of \$7.6 million to support the implementation of activities under the programs that could enhance food and income security, promote exports and alleviate poverty in Fiji. These are the highlights of major programs implemented this year;

FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM (FSP)

The Ministry is committed to the development of identified commodities that will substitute imported commodities. The main emphasis is to boost local production through our various programs in order to reduce our current import bills. This year, 615 tons of agriculture produce was produced under this program.

Budget Issued: \$1,000,000

Targeted Commodities: Assorted Vegetables, Capsicum, Rice, Tomato, Watermelon, Chinese & English Cabbage, Lettuce, Cucumber, Herbs and Broccoli/ Cauliflower

Budget Utilization: 23 Projects were approved focused on procurement of farming inputs, and tractor, construction of greenhouse, land preparation, renovation of cooler at Sigatoka Research Station which is the focal collection centre for 324 tomato growers who are directly supplying to the contracted hotels under the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), borehole, power tiller and water pump.

POTATO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This year, 40 tons of seed material was imported from Australia and grown in the Western, Central and Eastern Division as a food security crop. Crop Extension is assisting in putting the infrastructure in place, for example cooler storage facilities as well as organizing farmers for field planting. A total of 247 tons of potatoes were harvested this year compared to the 45 tons produced last year. The average yield is around 4.97 tons / ha; but the other fact remains that the quality (Size) have improved.

EXPORT PROMOTION PROGRAM

The Ministry is committed to the enhancement of exporting opportunities by promoting and ensuring the cultivation of identified crops entirely to cater for exports. This year, the Ministry produced 5,579 tons of commodities under the Export Promotion Program which is 4 % more than last year's production.

Budget Issued: \$1,000,000

Targeted Commodities: Dalo, Cassava, Vegetables, Pawpaw and Ginger.

Budget Utilization: 41 Projects were funded by the Export Promotion Program allocation this year for procurement of farming inputs and chainsaws, 12 members received water pump, water tanks & polythene pipes for cultivation of pawpaw, eggplant, tomatoes and watermelon, farming inspection conducted by 6 BQA Staff in the Western Division, construction of farm sheds, construction of boreholes, land preparation, construction of VCO sheds, chocolate processing machine and packaging materials.

SIGATOKA VALLEY DEVELOPMENT

Funding for this program was used to procure assorted vegetables planting materials for BQA commodities, agro inputs, infrastructure development and farm implements. Crops targeted were papaya, eggplants, chillies, maize and tomatoes. Sigatoka Valley Development Program contributed 1,451 tons to total agriculture production this year which is 5% less than 2014 production.

Budget Issued: \$200,000

Targeted Commodities: Chillies, Eggplant, Maize, Pulses-Cowpea, Tomato

RURAL OUTER ISLAND

There were nineteen (19) projects assisted under the program during the year with agro-inputs and were solely for income generating crops for farmers within the maritime islands and rural areas. This year, 3,034 metric tons were produced from the targeted crop commodities under the Rural & Outer Island Program.

RICE REVITALISATION PROGRAM

The Program aimed to reduce the import bill currently valued at \$40 million. For 2015, Fiji harvested 3,303 tons of Rice which was more than the 1,782 ton produced in 2014.

Budget Issued: \$900,000

Budget Utilization: A total of \$668,500 was used to procure machines such as: medium combine harvester, mini combine harvester, portable rice mills, rice trans-planter, power tiller, rice reaper and rice thresher.

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Funds allocated under the program were used for the construction of copra sheds and driers for the people of Lau. In addition, VCO equipment, coconut nurseries and cartage cost of seed nuts for the four (4) Divisions. The Ministry also organized Coconut Field Days as the mechanism of transferring knowledge to farmers as an approach for increasing coconut production.

Budget Issued: \$300,000

Achievement: A total of 1,927 tons of coconut were produced this year.

COCOA REVITALISATION

The main focus of this program was to rehabilitate the existing cocoa farms that had been neglected for a number of years. This year, Fiji produced 7 tons of Cocoa from the existing trees.

Budget Issued: \$300,000

Budget Utilization: The funds allocated were used to purchase farm equipment that will assist in the rehabilitation program such as chainsaws, brush cutters, secateurs, tree loppers, pruners, drying and fermentation equipment. Funds allocated to Research were used for raising seedlings for replanting of old and senile trees.

GINGER DEVELOPMENT

Ginger is one of the commodities targeted for the export market. Over the years, processed and fresh ginger was exported to the US, Netherlands, Germany, New Zealand and Australian markets. There is also a demand in the local market for fresh and processed ginger. The Ginger Industry continued to increase for the past years and as of 2015, farmers who received Government assistance managed to produce 399 tons of Ginger (Immature) which is 98% more than the production achieved last year.

Budget Issued: \$100,000

Budget Utilization: Funds allocated was used to procure planting materials, agro inputs, and land preparation, construction of wash bays and establishment of nurseries. Immature ginger is used to make ginger lollies which are now on demand in the local market.

VANILLA DEVELOPMENT

The main focus of this new program is to rehabilitate the existing Vanilla farms that had been neglected over the years mainly in the Central and Northern Divisions. This year, demonstration plots were also established (shade house). There are 200 vanilla growers in Fiji and the main buyers are Koko Siga Limited and Spices Fiji Limited. The Division successfully rehabilitated 25,000 vines under this program this year.



Cocoa fruit being harvested at Namau, Tailevu



Farmer selling ginger during the Agriculture Show in Ra



Fresh Vanilla pods

Budget Issued: \$50,000

Budget Utilization: The allocated fund was used to purchase farm equipment that would assist in the program which include; chainsaws, brush cutters and curing equipment.

AGRICULTURE EXTENSION SERVICES PROGRAM

Agriculture Extension Services Program mainly targets vulnerable farmers in all the geographical divisions. These crops are known to withstand extreme weather conditions.

Budget Issued: \$500, 000

Targeted Commodities: Yams, Kawai, Tivoli, Kumala, Dalo mix, Vudi, Banana and Dalo ni tana.

Budget Utilization: Funds were allocated for technical advisory services which covered demonstration plots, farmer trainings, field days, and office equipment and tool kits while 12% (\$60,000) of the total funding was for monitoring and support services.

ROTUMA ISLAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Total Budget: \$50,000

Targeted Commodities: Dalo, Cassava, Kumala, Vegetables, Coconut, Yaqona and Pawpaw.

Budget Utilization: Funds were allocated to procure planting materials of the targeted commodities. In addition, livestock fattening farm was established and breeding stock was purchased. Production of Agriculture Commodities in Rotuma has increased for the past years leading to a production of 326 tons this year.

SIGAVOU DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The farmers who were assisted under the Sigavou Development Program managed to harvest 826 tons of the targeted commodities. Cassava is the top commodity produced under this program out of the 14 agriculture commodities produced in Sigavou District.

Total Budget: \$250,000

Targeted Commodities: rice, fruits, root crops and assorted vegetables

Budget Utilization: Procurement of a tractor with implements, combine rice harvester, and culvert crossing were among other activities.

NADARIVATU DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Nadarivatu Development Program focuses on the production of imported goods that could be grown locally. The funds were used to buy assorted vegetable seeds that thrive during off-season. At the end of this year, 158 tons of crop commodities were harvested from farmers who were assisted under this program.

Total Budget: \$150,000

Budget Utilization: Assistance was extended towards infrastructure improvement, procurement of agro inputs and other farming equipment.

COTTAGE INDUSTRY

Total Budget: \$50,000

Targeted Commodities: Voivoi, Floriculture, Via, VCO

Budget Utilization: The funding was used to procure greenhouse materials for floriculture nurseries in the Central and Western Divisions, improvement of VCO shed and equipment in the Western Division and establishment of demonstration plots in Tailevu and Serua. It also includes monitoring & support services, farmers training, field days targeting women's groups and individual women's project. This program targets livelihood for womenfolk in rural areas.

Table 5: Food Security Program Production Achievement of Food Security Program

Commodity	Total Area Harvested (Ha)	Total Production (Mt)
Broccoli Cauliflower	0.1	1.2
Chinese Cabbage	10.96	102.17
Cucumber	2.8	18
English Cabbage	2	63.9
Herbs	0.45	1.3
Lettuce	1.22	16.18
Assorted Vegetables	60.44	328.84
Capsicum	1.36	8.6
Rice	1.5	3
Tomato	5.21	41.3
Watermelon	3.85	30.05

Source: Crop Extension Division

Table 6: Export Promotion Program Production Achievement

Program	Area harvested (Ha)	Production (Mt)
Assorted Vegetables	48.5	347.2
Cassava	21.93	255.65
Chillies	9.6	42.2
Dalo	322.74	3208.62
Dalo ni tana	0.2	2
Duruka	0.3	1.8
Eggplant	33.9	888.12
Pawpaw	18.8	123.6
Pineapple	70.2	747
Yams	1	10
Yaqona	50.7	133.07

Source: Crop Extension Division

Table 7: Sigatoka Valley Development Program (SVDP) Production Achievement

Commodity	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Mt)
Chillies	6	41
Eggplant	12	297
Maize	145	983
Pulses- Cowpea	1	5
Tomato	17	126

Source: Crop Extension Division

Table 8: Rural & Outer Island (ROI) Production Achievement

Commodity	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Mt)
Assorted Vegetables	36	291
Banana	3	25
Cassava	82	993
Dalo	109	1178
Ginger Mature	13	320
Pineapple	3	18
Rice	7	4
Yaqona	91	205

Source: Crop Extension Division

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Table 9: Agriculture Extension Services Production Achievement

Commodity	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Ha)
Assorted Vegetables	3	25
Banana	15	115
Breadfruit	2	20
Dalo	22	219
Dalo ni tana	35	360
Jackfruit	1	10
Kawai	4	14
Kumala	14	132
Lemon Grass	0.1	0
Tivoli	0.33	3
Via	4	37
Vudi	6	47
Yams	5	36

Source: Crop Extension Division

Table 10: Rotuma Island Development Program Production Achievement

Commodity	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (mt)
Assorted Vegetables	4.5	55
Cassava	3.8	46
Citrus	0	0
Dalo	11	135
Kumala	6	75
Orange	0	0
Pawpaw	0.2	1.2
Yaqona	5	14

Source: Crop Extension Division

Table 11: Saivou Development Program Production Achievement

Commodity	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (mt)
Capsicum	2	4
Cassava	50	500
Chillies	1	3
Eggplant	3	58
Kumala	7	54
Pawpaw	12	26
Potato	4	19
Rice	4	12
Tomato	2	10
Watermelon	10	76
Yams	2	26
English Cabbage	1	8
Cucumber	4	28
Spring Onion	0.1	1

Source: Crop Extension Division

NON- CAPITAL PROGRAM

The Crop Extension Division continues to promote the importance of producing local crops, fruits and vegetables to address the need of food security in Fiji.

Targeted crops: Vegetables, Dalo, Cassava, Dalo ni tana, Via, Kumala, Breadfruit, Yams, Rice, Duruka, Banana, Vudi, Vanilla, Voivoi and Floriculture.

Achievements: In 2015, a total production of 235,723mt of targeted commodities was achieved.

Table 12: Non Capital Program Production Achievement

Commodity	Area Harvested [Ha]	Production (mt)	Commodity	Area Harvested [Ha]	Production (mt)
Assorted Vegetables	2,077	22,918	Peanut	45	100
Banana	596	5,132	Pineapple	409	8,074
Breadfruit	182	1,584	Pulses	655	2,884
Cassava	6,015	72,643	Rice	1,245	3,007
Citrus	72	1,421	Tivoli	108	1,601
Coconut	2,238	17,992	Vanilla	2	3
Dalo	4,828	56,047	Via	7	65
Dalo ni tana	352	3,410	Voivoi	17	608
Duruka	102	552	Vudi	405	3,767
Floriculture	35	91	Watermelon	443	3,964
Ginger Immature	141	3,726	Yams	231	5,125
Kawai	77	918	Yaqona	1,847	6,091
Kumala	855	8,103	Ginger Mature	57	1,663
Maize	188	90	Dawa	2	10
Masi	1	9	Lemon	0	8
Pawpaw	423	4,050	Tumeric	14	70

Source: Crop Extension 2015 Annual Report



FARMING IS A SERIOUS BUSINESS



One is never too old to venture into farming. It is both for the young and old as much as it is for women and the youth. Tilling the land or looking after animals on a daily basis can also be seen as a form of exercise in keeping fit and also means earning income for the family.

For 63 year old Ponipate Vuni of Burekadamu village in Wainunu, farming as a business is serious enough as much as being a church steward.

Ponipate retired from church ministry four years ago and ventured into farming at his Nalovu farm in Saolo, in his beautiful and lush green, homeland of Bua on the island of Vanua Levu.

“During my journey as a Church Minister, I kept on thinking what will be the next step for me since I will not hold the position all my life. So the only best solution came to my mind was to look for a land to lease for farming and make it a business as a source of income for my family,” Ponipate said speaking in the I-Taukei language.

Looking back Ponipate said that in 2010 he was able to secure 100 acres of land that belonged to the Mataqali of Saolo to which he has maternal links and was able to plant dalo, cassava, banana and yaqona. The result of his

efforts and hard work he put into farming paid off for Ponipate during his first harvest where he managed to purchase a 4x4 Wheel Drive vehicle worth \$40,000 and also built a Grocery Store worth \$15,000.

He now has nearly 20,000 Dalo of the Tausala variety ready for harvesting and another 20,000 dalo plants on the ground.

“I want to show everyone about the importance of working hard because I am a living testimony.”

Ponipate supplies dalo every month to the Island Express Company based in Nausori from where it is exported overseas. To assist him in his farm, Ponipate hires 10 labourers while his wife looks after the shop.

Ponipate has three children and his eldest daughter works at Labasa Hospital while his two sons assist him on the farm. He plans to plant 100,000 acres of Tausala and construct a farmhouse so that he can spend most of his time in his farm. According to Agriculture Technical Officer [Bua] Anare Leweniqila, Ponipate is among the successful farmers in the Province of Bua today.

“Ponipate is a role model to other farmers in the area. He started with 300 dalo suckers and now he produces 6 to 8 tonnes of Dalo per month,” Mr. Leweniqila said. He advises farmers to work with the right attitude and treasure what the land has to offer. “I always advise farmers that there is no need to go abroad and pick apples because wealth and fortune is in farming right here in our country,” Ponipate says.



ANIMAL HEALTH & PRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

The Animal Health & Production Services incorporates identification of potential livestock farming projects to be funded under the Demand Driven Approach Program, provide knowledge and livestock related services to livestock industries, provides advice to Government on the development of livestock sectoral policies and programs aimed at promoting the sustainable development of the livestock industry, provide animal health, regulatory and technical services to maintain and improve animal health status and prevent the introduction of exotic pests and diseases and promote and facilitate livestock research and development programs among other responsibilities.

The Demand Driven Approach strategy includes the Food Security Programme, Dairy Industry Support programme and Rural and Outer Island Programme which was implemented during the year with a total released allocation of \$1.14 million. This allocation made the implementation of 87 livestock projects possible and successful. There are altogether seven livestock commodities that are looked after by the Animal Health & Livestock Division.

This year, Fiji produced 40,081 tons of Livestock Products in both formal and informal market.

These are the highlights of the 3 Programs under Animal Health & Production Division:

FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME (FSP)

The programme was implemented all over the country through project proposals which was based on demand driven approach concept. A total number of 26 projects were under FSP. Most of these projects were successfully implemented. More than 50% of the funded projects were for the poultry industry, 21% for beef and the remaining funds were shared amongst other commodities.

Total Budget: \$410,178.30

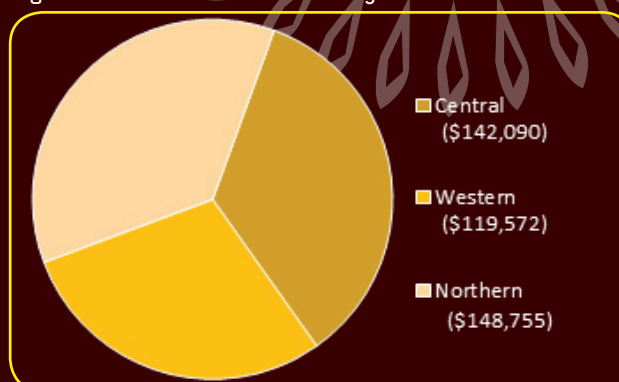
Actual Expenditure: \$232,677

Targeted Commodities: Beef, Sheep, Goat, Pigs, Bees and Poultry.

DAIRY INDUSTRY SUPPORT (DIS)

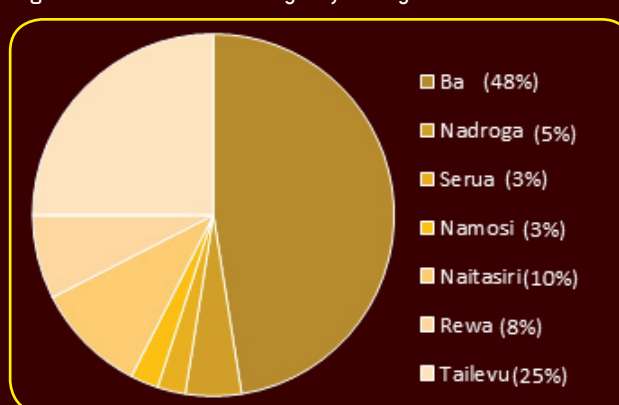
As usual the Dairy Industry Programme is a priority to the Animal Health & Production Division during the year. The dairy industry moved to the Western Division especially in the cane belt area for the past 2 years (2013) which

Figure 6: Distribution of FSP Funds by Division



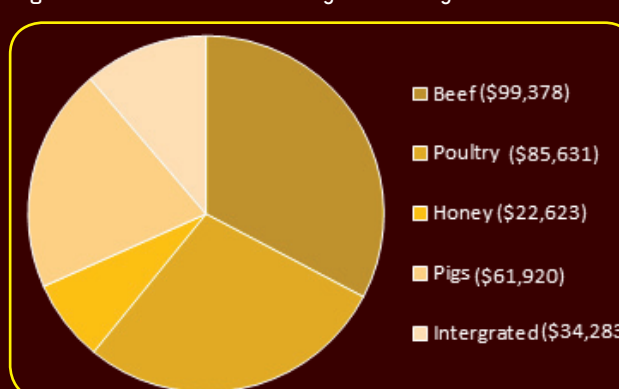
Source: AH&P Annual Report 2015

Figure 7: Distribution of Dairy Projects by Districts



Source: AH&P Annual Report 2015

Figure 8: Distribution of Funds by Commodity



Source: AH&P Annual Report 2015

has the potential for extra production to meet the increasing demand of dairy products in Fiji.

Total Budget: \$563,240.37

Actual Expenditure: \$513,495.40

Achievement:

Funds were mainly allocated for Development in the Dairy Industry mainly for nutrition and infrastructure development such as construction and maintenance of dairy sheds and procurement of milking equipment. During the year, a total of 40 projects were approved under this programme, of which 50 dairy sheds was constructed and 2 nutrition improvement programmes carried out that involved the establishment of fodder banks for cut and carry purposes and a total of 9 project staff were employed.

RURAL & OUTER ISLAND PROGRAMME (ROI)

The main objective of the ROI programme was to increase agricultural production especially in the rural and maritime zones. Through this assistance and prioritized measures, farmers are to increase production from the current level to either semi commercial or commercial level.

Total Budget: \$303,865.45

Actual Expenditure: \$205,464.22

Achievement:

A total of 21 projects valued at around \$303,865.45 have been established in the rural and outer islands. These projects have impacted the livelihoods of rural dwellers through provision of reliable income to support their daily needs, created employment, education and housing; thus, reducing urban drift and school drop outs. It also provided improved nutrition and livestock medicinal needs to increase and maintain livestock production.

PRODUCTION ACHIEVEMENTS OF MAJOR LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES

Beef

A total of 15,097 cows (breeders) were recorded with a total stock of 39,482 this year. The Western Division holds 40% of these stocks. The country produced 3,591 tons from both the formal and informal markets and imported 1,804 tons of Beef this year. Beef Production through the formal market recorded a decrease in slaughter from 2,801 tons in 2014 to 1,519 tons this year. The volume of Beef exports has increased from 8 tons in 2014 to 10 tons this year (2015).

Dairy

A total of 7.78 million liters of milk was supplied to the Fiji Dairy Limited (FDL) by the Fiji Cooperative Dairy Company Limited (FCDCL). However, the total production for the formal and informal market was 11.2 million liters compared to 14.9 million liters in 2014. An average total of 13,865 milking cows were recorded throughout the year compared to 8,860 heads in 2014 which is an increase by 36%. Out of all the dairy cows in the country, 73% are in the Central Division, 25.7% in the West and 1.3% in the Northern Division. Fiji imported 2.7m liters of Milk (Liquid; i.e. excluding powdered and evaporated milk) this year. Fiji Dairy (Milk) is also exported and this year we have exported 624 kg of milk mostly to Pacific Island Countries.

Sheep

A total of 4,925 sheep was slaughtered with a total weight of 74 tons this year for both the formal and informal market. There were 514 supervised farms recorded in 2015 compared to 495 last year (2014). An increase was also found in number of population as it increased by 28% in 2015 (15,327 in 2014 to 21,386 in 2015). Majority of the farms are located in the Northern Division (267) which is 48% of the total farms in Fiji and bulk of the stock is also located in the North (12,461 Heads). Fiji imported 4,906 tons of Sheep meat this year compared to 4,486 tons imported last year. A total of 14 tons of fresh/chilled Sheep meat was exported this year.

Pig

A total of 14,625 pigs were slaughtered at the registered abattoirs producing 1,469 tons of pork compared to 17,033 slaughtered in 2014 with the weight of 997.5 tons. A total of 2,516 supervised farms were recorded during the year with 6,314 breeding sows and a total stock of 31,182. Majority of these farms were from the Central and Eastern Divisions at 81% and 79.8% in the total number of stock. This year, Fiji imported 101 tons of fresh and chilled pig meat which is 50% less than the volume imported last year (2014). There is an enormous increase in export of fresh and chilled pork, from 7 tons in 2014 to 55 tons in 2015.

Goat

A total of 269 goats were slaughtered in the formal market obtaining 2.7 tons of goat meat and 81.2 tons was produced in the informal market this year. The average carcass weight was 12 kilograms per animal at the abattoirs and 13 kg at farm gate sales. There were 938 farms recorded in 2015 compared to 935 farms in 2014 and this is an increase of 0.3%. This also showed an increase in population by 5.2% from 38,000 in 2014 to 40,097 in 2015. Fiji imported 131 tons of Goat Meat this year compared to 118 tons imported last year (2014).



Poultry farm

Honey

A total of 203 tons of honey was recorded during the year and this is a decrease by 67% compared to 2014 (340 tons). There were 7 new projects established this year. The average production per hive, decreased to 10.59kg compared to 24.6kg in 2014. The number of farmers recorded for the year was 1,565 compared to 1,543 in 2014 and the number of hives recorded was 15,033 compared to 13,817 hives in 2014.

Poultry

This year, a total number of 9,892,935 broilers were slaughtered through the registered slaughterhouse producing 23,400 tons of poultry meat. There were no figures recorded from small backyard farmers. Fiji imported 1,097 tons of fresh and chilled poultry meat (including duck meat) this year and exported 204 tons which is 92% more than the volume exported last year.



Goat farm

HEALTH & DISEASE ERADICATION

Brucellosis Tuberculosis Eradication Campaign (BTEC)

There were continuous Brucellosis Tuberculosis Eradication Campaign (BTEC) surveillance carried out for the year 2015 focusing on the registered dairy farms, beef farms, villages and settlements within the infected zones in the Central and Western Divisions.

The national prevalence for Brucellosis dropped dramatically ever since the inception of the proper program in 2012. This happened when the section took over the disease control campaign from the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF). The Brucellosis prevalence has now reduced to 0.04% and most of the previously infected farms are on the recovery process whereby the number of infected farms was reduced from 9 (2014) to 4 farms (2015).

On the other hand, Tuberculosis (TB) cases increased dramatically in the Tailevu Area. In the past, TB cases showed that throughout the years there were minimal variations and it was significantly decreasing till 2013. However, recent figures showed that there is a sudden increase in Tuberculosis cases confined within infected farms in Tailevu. This came about when the Principal Veterinary Officer (PVO) introduced the T.B auditing standard operating procedures from September, 2014. A total of 1,521 TB reactors were identified for the year and 1,361 were removed from 83 farms.

The team will strictly adhere to the testing strategy and will carry out timely testing's for faster control and efficient eradication campaign. BTEC operations for 2015 mostly concentrated in the Central Division and the team also conducted testing in the West.



Bull on display at the Agriculture Show Central Division

Outputs produced this year are as follows;

- A total of 37,516 cattle's were tested throughout the year with 602 notices issued to farmers. With this test, 1,361 TB reactors were removed from 83 farms and 23 Brucellosis positives from 11 farms.
- There were 1,161 Tuberculosis confirmed free farms with 83 infected farms, 140 restricted farms and 9 provisionally clear farms.
- There were 337 Brucellosis confirmed free farms with 4 infected farms, 389 restricted farms and 97 provisionally cleared farms.
- There were 261 TB and Brucellosis confirmed free farms after 3 clear tests.
- During the year (2015), a total of 37,516 bovine were tested and this was 7% more than the number tested in 2014 (35,094). From the 602 farms tested, 23 ELISA positive were from 7 farms and 1,521 TB positive from 83 farms were all slaughtered at the abattoir.

VETERINARY PATHOLOGY LABORATORY

The Laboratory continued to provide service through its core disciplines like Microbiology, Parasitology, Histology, Serology and Necropsy. The Laboratory also facilitated and carried out monitoring and surveillance of the disease status prevalent in Fiji and also other exotic diseases to declare Fiji disease free and report to OIE (World Organization for Animal Health).

For the year 2015, the Fiji Veterinary Pathology Laboratory received a total budget of \$400,000.00VEP and was utilized for the Laboratory Accreditation. Activities carried out during the year were:

- Training in method Validation & Uncertainty of measurements
- Documentation of quality manual, development of test methods i.e. SOP
- Calibration of laboratory equipment

Other Outputs are as follows:

Accession by Species: a total number of 31,644 specimen was received which showed an increase by 9% compared to 2014 (29,071).

- **Bacteriology:** A total of 227 milk samples received and tests were done. These samples were analyzed Total Plate Counts, Coliform Counts, Antibiotic residue tests, Methylene blue tests, and bacterial isolation and Sensitivity tests.
- **Tuberculosis:** A total of 625 samples were received

and tests were carried out.

- **Processed Products:** A total of 23 samples with 23 tests were carried out. All these samples were tested for Total Plate Count, Coliform, Salmonella and Bacterial isolates.
- **Post Mortem Samples:** A total of 167 samples were received and routine bacterial culture, biochemical test, gram staining and sensitivity tests were carried out on different organs of different species. Some of the bacteria isolated were E.Coli, Streptococcus, Pasturella, Staphylococcus, Pseudomonas, Subtilise, Corynebacteria, Clostridium, Listeria and Bacillus.
- **Parasitological:** A total of 1,165 samples were analyzed for Parasitological tests during the year. The test included faecal egg count, coccidia and worm identification. The samples received were mainly faecal samples for egg counts and these came from VPL sheep, Palm Lea Farm, NQS, Muni Ratnam and sheep and goat farms from the Western and Northern Divisions.
- **Serology:** The Veterinary Pathology Laboratory continued to support the field staff through investigations and diagnoses of livestock diseases during the year. A total of 28,150 animals were tested and 13 were positive compared to last year which was 29,503 animals with 101 positive.
- **Necropsies:** A total of 167 specimens were received during the year and this accounted for an increase by 54.6% compared to 108 in 2014.

REGULATORY SERVICES

Registration and Inspection

- During the year a total of 23 slaughterhouses, 1 Dairy processing factory, 1 Meat processing factory, 49 meat carrying vehicles and 12 cattle trucks were inspected, certified and underwent medical certification around the country. A total of 573 swab samples were carried out in the slaughterhouses, cannery plant, milk processing factory and butchers around the country.
- A total of 55 pounds were recorded as one new pound was constructed at Dawasamu and 2 pounds repaired in Naqesa and Vunidawa. However, out of these total numbers of pounds only 9 were in operational condition and the rest needed maintenance. A total of 130 animals (130 cattle) were impounded during the year, generating a revenue of \$ 2,657.50
- 885 brands were registered with a total revenue of \$2,351.75. This indicated an increase of 35% (228) in

brand registered compared to 2014 (657). Most brand registration was recorded from the Western Division which accounted for 52% of the total achievement,

- 11,059 animals were slaughtered, meat inspection was recorded from two (2) divisional abattoirs, rural slaughterhouses, with total revenue of \$9,930.10 and this accounted for a decrease by 21% compared to 2014.
- 27 dog trapping campaigns were done this year, 10 in the Western Division and 17 in the Northern Division, and a total of 228 dogs were trapped whereby all dogs were euthanized. In comparison to the 2014 figures the average number of dogs trapped per campaign was 8 dogs whereas there were 10 for 2014.
- A total of 2,435 dogs were licensed in which the Central Division had the most dogs licensed followed by the Western and Northern Divisions. The figure indicated a decrease of 52% compared to 2014 (5,073 dogs). The total revenue achieved during the year (\$31,459.30) decreased by 54% when compared to 2014.
- 509 baits were laid at the 3 Divisions of which 336 baits were taken with the balance recovered. In the process, a total of 136 dead dogs were recovered and buried. The figure still indicated that stray dogs still pose a risk to our livestock farmers and research stations. The campaign was carried out on supervised farms and Government Stations, this has some impact on the control of stray dogs since there has been lesser complaints received afterwards.

Vehicle Inspection & Registration

- A total of 49 meat carrying vehicles, 13 milk carting vehicles and 12 cattle trucks were inspected and registered for the Western, Northern and Central Divisions, Laucala and Wakaya Island in 2015, to cart livestock under the chapter 237 with the provision of stock movement advice.

Dairy Inspection

- A total of 558 dairy farms were inspected, renewed and were registered in 2015 to supply raw milk to the Fiji Dairy Limited.

Clinical Cases

The total clinical cases achieved for the year was 6,109 with a total revenue of \$181,833.10 achieved from the three (3) divisions; Central/Eastern, Northern and Western Divisions. This accounted for a 12.5% (680) increase when compared to 2014. (5429)

Drug Sales

A total of 20,358 drug sales were conducted during the year with a total revenue of \$423,169.61 and this accounted for a 4.0% decrease in drug sales compared to 2014 (21,201). The highest revenue was collected from the Central and Eastern Division. (55%)

Castration

A total of 891 castrations were recorded from the three (3) Divisions during the year. This indicated an increase by 16.2% in cases when compared to 2014 (767). Some farmers were doing castration at their own farms.

LIVESTOCK RESEARCH

The Animal Health and Production Division Livestock Research Section achieved about eighty percent (80%) of its program activities with the funding of \$1 million (FJD). The major activities of Livestock Research are breed improvements, alternative feed resources and management aspects of livestock production.

The Research Section aimed to produce the preliminary Fiji Feeding Standards by December 2016. In this pursuit, a Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) consultant, was engaged continuously (2014-2015) to assist in the formulation, design and drafting of the document.

The Livestock Feed Technology Research Unit continued the screening of Juncao grass (*Pennisetum Purpureum*) cultivars on different edaphic conditions in various stations (Koronivia, Sigatoka, Nawaicoba & Batiri) with the aim to release preliminary results in July 2016.

The Green Feed Projects continued with the collection, sorting, recording and the analysis of different crop residues from Suva, Nausori municipalities and this will be incorporated in reasonable quantities with imported feed ingredients to formulate required rations of different productive animal species.

Table 13: Achievements of Livestock Research Program

ITEM	OBJECTIVE	BUDGET	MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS
Dairy Research	To improve and upgrade research station's production capabilities in supplying quality breeding replacement stock to farmers and make a positive impact on the declining milk production in the livestock sector.	\$191,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stock Improvement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 24 Young Bulls & 6 Bulls Calves Total Revenue: \$25,500 Fence & Paddock <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5km drainage completed @ KRS 16.02 km new fencing & fence repair Infrastructure Improvement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> New stockyard Feeding pan constructed @ KRS Renovated Quarters Plants/Machines/Equipment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coolant purchased & install 2 Units Purchased Cattle weighting scale Purchased & Installed High pressure pump Staff Training 25 Inseminations conducted Total Dairy stock as at 31st December 2015 at KRS is 178 heads, WBS - 30 heads and DRS – 19 heads. Total sale for the New Zealand stock for 2015 was 30 heads with revenue of \$25,500.00 A total of 30 breeding stock were sold to farmers.
Beef Research & Development	To produce genetically improved breeds at the station to facilitate the standardization in terms of quality and quantity for research purposes and for sale to selected farmers	\$150,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Research <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Feedlot 50% Trial Genetically improved breeding bulls of pure blood line for sale and distribution to selected farmers <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11 cows inseminated 83 breeding stock sold Infrastructural Improvements <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8 km fence upgraded Completed improvement of 1 shed 2km Drainage achieved 2 km road improved Digester Constructed Pasture Improvement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12 ha fully renovated Conducted AI Training
Smallholder Sheep Development	The programs is aimed at improving the quality and quantity of the Fiji Fantastic five blood lines in Fiji though the maintenance and development of research facilities on the stations. Infrastructure upgrade, nutrition improvement, controlled breeding and proper weaning management for supply of quality breeding stock to farmers	\$170,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stock Improvement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ewes increased by 385 this year from 1,400 last year 199 Ewes sold to farmers and Multiplication Center Infrastructure Development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.5km new fencing erected 10 km of fence line cleared 2 tanks procured for improvement of water reticulation A total of 2,952 stocks were recorded at the four sheep breeding stations compared to 2,638 in 2014 demonstrating an increase of 12 percent from 2015. The local sheep has the ability to produce leaner meat when compared to imported mutton meaning healthier protein source.

Pig Research & Development	To conduct research and rear desirable quality and quantity of breeding animals for research and distribution through the purchase of superior quality breeding stock to selected farms.	\$150,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research: Trial Conducted 2. Breed Improvement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 322 Sows inseminated b. 1 stock purchased 3. Infrastructure <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1 New Pig Shed (Trial) b. 1 Water Supply Sheds Constructed 4. Sale of Breeding Stock <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 330 weaners sold (improved breeds) 5. A total of 412 piglets were born from 32 sows of which 16 (4 percent) died while 396 (96 percent) was sold to selected farmers 6. The average number of piglets born per litter increased at 11 percent from 8 in 2014 to 9 in 2015. This increase could be attributed to the fact that more farmers are using the technique in 2015.
Goat Research & Development	Addressing the goat industry issues by conducting relevant areas of research on feed, breed and management aspects and the maintenance and supply of quality breeding bucks to approved farmers in the divisions	\$150,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 Feed & Feeding Trial Completed 2. 60 breeding stock sold 3. 1 Goat Shed Constructed and 1 Goat Shed renovated 4. 3 ha of pasture established 5. 6ha of pasture renovated 6. 15 tons supplementary feed 7. 1 Vet Drug 8. 1 Field Training/Day 9. The animals were distributed according to the demand at 35 (57 percent), 5 (8 percent) and 21 (35 percent) to the Western, Eastern and Northern divisions respectively.
Poultry Research & Development	To introduce local breeds for breeding of resilient breeds of chicken	\$100,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 11, 401 day old chicks produced 2. 10,578 day old chicks supplied 3. Received 1 Batch of importation of Breeder stock 4. 100 females and 15 males of parent resilient stock purchased 5. 10 Vials of vaccine received 6. 500 Layers pellets purchase for feed 7. 1 new egg hatching machine purchased 8. 1 Poultry cooperative meeting & 3 trainings conducted (Broiler Management) 9. 78 trays of dirty shell eggs sold with revenue of \$312.00
Livestock Feed Technology	To improve livestock nutrition for increased levels of meat and milk production	\$200,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 Research Trial Completed after 3 years of data collection 2. Batiri trial has just been established 3. 1 Consultation conducted on Feed Bill 4. 247 bags of vegetative planting material supplied 5. 1100 potted legumes supplied 6. 570 pots of legume seeds collected 7. Imported 1.7 tons pasture seeds 8. Conducted 3 Trainings- Beef Farmers

Source: 2015 Animal Health & Production Annual Report

DAIRY FARMER BELIEVES IN HARD WORK



From the hills of Nailiko road in Bulu Sigatoka, resides 43-year-old livestock farmer Shahgul who firmly believes that life is about farming and sheer hard work.

Shahgul was raised up in a family of farmers and assisted his father on the farm after completing Class eight (8). He later joined a logging company as a Machine Operator while his father continued farming.

In 2009, he was faced with a situation in which he was forced to leave his full paid job and take farming from his father who felt

up
ill.

"I had to take over the farm from my father at the age of 38 because my father became sick and we started facing financial difficulties. I have learnt about farming from my father and grandfather and from that point in time I have had no regrets about taking over from our farm."

Mr. Shahgul has a total of 80 dairy cattle including 50 milking cows and 30 calves. "I supply about 50-60 litres of milk daily to the customers as \$1.50 per litre."

Shahgul is currently leasing a total of 621 acres of land from three land owners and is looking forward to leasing more land in future as he intends to expand into beef farm-

ing. One of the major difficulties Shahgul is currently facing is the source of drinking water. "I have to buy drinking water from town at \$80 where the truck comes and fill up the tanks which often last for one month," he said.

Married with children Shahgul is continuously supported by his wife and five children on the farm. Farming is the only source of income for Shahgul and through this he is able to cater for his children's education needs as well as his family needs. Apart from dairy farming, he recently ventured into bee keeping and was able to set up 40 bee hives. Last year he harvested about 40 litres of honey and is looking forward to expanding his honey business. It was a joyful moment for Shahgul as he was boosted with assistance provided to him by the Ministry of Agriculture.

"Last year the Ministry of Agriculture assisted me to build a dairy shed worth of \$10,020 and also supplied some fencing materials."

Recently the Ministry assisted him with a portable milking machine to help him speed up the process of milking which allows him to do other farm work. "I am really grateful to the Government for this timely assistance."

The Senior Agriculture Officer for Animal Health and Production Division in the Western Division, Mr. Tevita Nabura said that Shahgul really improved after taking over the farm from his father. "He started with a total of 60 milking cows at that time and now it has increased to 80 dairy cattle and 40 bee hives," said Mr. Nabura.



CROP RESEARCH

OVERVIEW

The year 2015 was another successful year for the Crop Research Division. A total of \$1.716M was allocated to fund research activities. The focus was on main crop commodities and activities that target the development of affordable agricultural technologies and dissemination of research findings to stakeholders. Important commodities like rice, dalo, cassava, yams, potato, papaya, pineapple, tomatoes, chillies, capsicum, pulses, maize, coconuts & cocoa were the focus of research activities during the year. This was supported by research activities on plant, soil and food analysis in the Fiji Agricultural Chemistry Laboratory and on management of plant disease, insect and invasive plants by the Plant Protection Section staff.

A number of collaborative researches were carried out during the year including the ACIAR funded project Soil Health Project, Integrated Crop Management: Developing Cleaner Export Pathway for Pacific Agriculture Commodities. The FJD\$14M Chinese Government funded JUNCAO Mushroom Technology Centre continued at Legalega Research Station and the China-aided (US\$5M) Agricultural Development Project (Phase I) commenced at Dreketi Agricultural Station and Koronivia Research Station in January 2015.

One issue of the Fiji Agricultural Journal Volume 55 was published in 2015. Dr Apaitia Macanawai, the Acting Director Research was the Chief Editor of the Fiji Agricultural Journal.

The following are the summaries of research programs undertaken during the year:

ROOT CROPS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Total Budget: \$200,000

Activities: collection, introduction, characterization, documentation & management of these genetic resources.

Achievements: taro breeding for resistance to taro leaf blight, a taro disease that poses a real threat to the taro industry in Fiji. Seven (7) taro breeding lines from SPC were crossed with 15 local taro varieties. On – farm demonstration of improved varieties for drought tolerant Kumala was established in Nadi.

UPGRADE OF TISSUE CULTURE LABORATORY

Total Budget: \$195,000

Achievement: The refurbishment of the Tissue Culture Lab was undertaken with additional space to cater for the needs

of the lab. Fourteen (14) crops were conserved and maintained in the Tissue Culture Lab: banana (3vars.), breadfruit (9), cassava (8), kava (1), pandanus (1), pineapple (1), potato (42), swamp taro (3), sweet potato (25), taro (14), yam (3), xanthosoma (1), ginger (3) and vanilla (1).

AGRICULTURE RESEARCH SERVICES – HORTICULTURE

Total Budget : \$150,000

Achievements:

- o A new tomato variety 'Melrose' was released for commercial planting in collaboration with the World Vegetable Centre (AVRDC).
- o Nine Chillies and 5 capsicum varieties tolerant to Anthracnose were evaluated.
- o Four protected structure designs were constructed for offseason vegetables evaluation. To promote organic vegetable production, an organic vegetable demo plot was established at Sigatoka Research Station (SRS) and locally available composting materials were evaluated.
- o A total of 450 grafted citrus plants, 364 assorted exotic and indigenous fruits and 20,000 papaya seedlings were produced and sold to stakeholders.
- o Potting experiment on papaya seedling production using locally available media was undertaken to determine the best potting combination and the right plastic pot size for potting. The results showed significant differences between the ratio combinations. However, the impact of incorporating agriculture lime into the potting medium was remarkable.

AGRICULTURE RESEARCH SERVICES – TREE CROPS

Total Budget: \$150,000

Achievements:

- o A total of 3,420 Malayan Red Dwarf female parents were replanted in block 3 & 4 at Taveuni Research & Development Centre (TRDC) for hybrid coconut seed nut production.
- o A farmer training was held at TRDC on the concept of utilizing the whole part of coconut.
- o Two budwood gardens of 16 selected cocoa clones each were planted at Wainigata Research Station and Matasawalevu in Dreketi.

POTATO RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Total Budget: \$150,000

Achievements:

- o Three varieties conserved from 2014 were evaluated at Sigatoka Research Station and Red Pontiac was the

only variety that produced marketable yields of 13.5t/ha.

- o A basal fertilizer trial combined with liming was conducted at SRS. The highest yield of 28.5 t/ha was recorded for the treatment, Muriate of Potash without liming.
- o A potato storage trial was conducted at SRS in which potatoes were stored in cooler, diffuse house and room temperature. It was observed that sprouting started 48 days after storage in the diffuse house and room temperature while potato in cooler storage started to sprout 6 months later.

MANAGEMENT OF PEST

Total Budget: \$100, 000

Achievements:

- o A total of 42 fungus inoculated ground traps (18 by Koronivia Research Station [KRS] and 24 by TRDC) setup/serviced this year.
- o A total of 165 pheromone traps (136 by KRS and 29 by TRDC) were setup/serviced at various infested sites while field collection totaled to 1798 (eggs, grubs, pupae and adults).
- o 22 coconut pest awareness trainings (11 by KRS and 11 by TRDC) were conducted for farmers, extension officers and stakeholders during Agriculture show; in groups or on one to one basis.
- o A total of 733 parasitoids for coconut stick were released at various infested sites this year.
- o Work in Rotuma commenced with assistance from BAF for new establishment and rearing of two economic species, *B. xanthodes* and *B. kirki* where eggs will be used for testing fruits in High Temperature Forced Air (HTFA) in Rotuma.
- o The effectiveness of six herbicides on management of rain tree was tested and results showed that Invader herbicide to be the most effective using rates 1:1 (1 part herbicide: 1 part water) and 1:2.
- o The herbicide efficacy trial on African tulip showed that Glyphosate 360 was the most effective in controlling the invasive weed.
- o The study on *Mucuna puriens* showed that plots planted with mucuna produced greater number of earthworm population, higher soil nutrient contents and better yields than plots without mucuna.
- o Chilli anthracnose is caused by the fungus *Colletotrichum* species. In Fiji, three *Colletotrichum* species had been identified to be associated with the disease of chilli. The three *Colletotrichum* species are *Colletotrichum truncate*, *C. scovillei* and *C. simmondsii* (previously *acutatum*).
- o In-vitro screening of 7 locally available fungicides was conducted to determine the effectiveness of each of the fungicides against the anthracnose pathogen. Two of



Rice Planter in full operation at the KRS rice demo plot



Nursery



Melrose variety released by the Crop Research Division in Sigatoka

the fungicides proved to have shown control on the pathogen.

- o A total of 107 diseases, insect & weeds received for identification and diagnostics, 554 advisory services, pest complaints and trainings conducted.

DEVELOPMENT OF SEED AND PLANTING MATERIAL

Total Budget: \$281,000

Achievement:

Table 14: Amount of Seed Distributed

CROPS	AMOUNT SUPPLIED
Taro – traditional & hybrids	5,300 suckers
Yams	7,502.50kg
Sweet potato	12,003 cuttings
Cassava	1,360 cuttings
Kawai	826kg
Ginger	3,678kg
Cocoa	3,800 seedlings
Pulses	1239
Maize	2709kg
Chillies	10.2kg
Tomato	12.2kg
Eggplant	14.7kg
Sweet corn	47kg
Papaya seedlings	21,032
Pineapple plantlets	116,647

FIJI AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY LABORATORY (FACL)

- o The laboratory was engaged in two international proficiency programs: the International Plant and Soil Exchange Programmes conducted by the Australasia Soil and Plant Analysis Council (ASPAC) and the Global Proficiency Programs Australia & New Zealand for Food and Water.
- o The FACL received 3,702 samples and conducted a total of 35,965 tests, the highest number of tests in the last five years. About 85% of the tests performed were associated with research and development in agriculture and 15% for other purposes.
- o Dr. Lydia Manguiat (Food Technologist, Philippines) was engaged for a 3-months period, assisting the Food Product Development Laboratory unit in the formulation and development of pasteurized Fruit Juices (nectar, purees and ready-to-drink), and its various blends using mangoes, pineapple and kumquat.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT OF RESEARCH STATIONS

Total Budget: \$300,000

Achievements: A number of activities undertaken at the research stations during the year which includes road upgrading, culvert installment, borehole construction, sinking sidewall repair, landscaping, generator maintenance and electrical upgrading.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT RICE PROJECT

- The China-aided (USD \$5M) Agricultural Development Rice Project commenced in January 2015.
- A total of 336 sets of agricultural machinery and equipment which consisted of 11 categories from 36 different machine types have been successfully dispatched to respective production areas throughout Fiji.
- The rice research trial results at Koronivia Research Station showed that seedling casting yielded at 5.75 t/ha and straight row method produced 5.06 t/ha which were better than the national average yield of 2.5 t/ha.

RESEARCH PUBLICATION

1. Macanawai, A.R., Day, M. D. and Adkins, S. W. (2015). Effects of age, length, and pattern of burial on the survival of Mikania micrantha stem sections. Pacific Science Journal 69 (1), 95-102.
2. Korovulavula, P, Lin, B. and Prasad, S. (2015). Evaluation of promising tomato varieties. Fiji Agricultural Journal 55 (1), 31-33.
3. Prasad, N. and Nand, A. (2015). Intercropping pulses with sugarcane. Technical Bulletin Issue 1. Ministry of Agriculture, Suva, Fiji.
4. Banuve, A. (2015). How to graft tomatoes with eggplant. Technical Bulletin Issue 2. Ministry of Agriculture, Suva, Fiji.

2015 MAJOR COMMITMENTS OF THE MINISTRY TOWARDS MAINTAINING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF EXTENSION AND RESEARCH SERVICES FOR CROPS, LIVESTOCK AND VETERINARY SERVICES



Minister for Agriculture, Rural & Maritime Development & National Disaster Management, Hon Inia Seruiratu, officially opened the Ministry of Agriculture National Insect Museum at Koronivia Research Station.



Mr. Kesh Lal receives the key to the new rice combined harvester from the Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, Hon. Inia Seruiratu.



As part of continued efforts to revitalize and expand livestock development through the integrated farming system, the Ministry of Agriculture's Animal Health and Production [AH&P] Division conducted training to 40 livestock farmers at the Nakoro village hall in Navosa.



Farmers from Waidina, Lomaivuna, Vuna, Navuakece, Lutu, and Matalobau have been benefitting from this ginger program earning them approximately \$2.4million production in sale.



Local cocoa sample sent to be part of the International Cocoa Awards in Paris, France has been selected amongst the top 50 samples from a total of 146 received from 35 countries for the this year's edition. Cacao Fiji started in 2014 to process high quality cocoa beans for export. The company is currently operating at its model farm in Dreketi, Vanua Levu where the cacao is processed. The company is working with the Ministry of Agriculture on establishing a network of cocoa farmers.



LAND RESOURCE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

OVERVIEW

This year, the Government invested \$300,000 to the Ministry of Agriculture for Land Resource Planning and Development Activities. Activities of this Division are linked specifically to PILLAR 5-8 of the Peoples Charter for Change, Peace and Progress:

5. Achieving Higher Economic Growth while Ensuring Sustainability
6. Making More Land Available for Productive and Social purposes
7. Developing an Integrated Development Structure at the Provincial Level
8. Reducing Poverty to a Negligible Level by 2015

For the budget allocated, \$280,000 was used for Sustainable Land Management project which was adopted by the Government since 2008 and is now being promoted throughout Fiji in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, civil society and faith based organization. The remaining \$120,000 was allocated for Farm Management, mainly for Capacity Building of farmers.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Total Budget: \$280,000

For Sustainable Land Program, activities were aligned to the priority commodity of the Ministry such as Dalo, Ginger, Yaqona and Dairy farming. The Project is mainly for capacity building and promoting the adoption of Sustainable Land Management for improvement of agricultural production while maintaining ecological balance for future generation.

The Ministry of Agriculture is the National Focal Point of the UNCCD in Fiji and therefore has obligations to coordinate Fiji's commitment to the UN Conventions and especially the UNCCD. Therefore, the implementations of this project will reflect on Fiji's commitment to the "Decisions of the Conference of Parties (COP)". Fiji has also committed itself to the Declaration made at the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000 on Millennium Development Goals which is now known as the 2015 Sustainable Development Goal. One of the 8 Goals is to ensure environment sustainability through the integration of the principles of sustainable development into the country's policies and programs to reverse or minimize the loss of environmental resources.

In support of the Government Priority of Making more land available for productive and social services, the Ministry of Agriculture implemented the following sector driven strategies this year;

EFFECTIVE LAND USE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Reviewed and submitted the new Land and Water

Resource Management Decree to the Parliament Natural Resource Committee

- 6 Tikina Based Baseline Biophysical Survey were conducted this year by the Land Resource Planning & Development Staff of the Ministry [two in Kadavu, one in Bua, two in Ra, one in Cakaudrove] for the identification of potential arable land.
- 26 Sustainable Land Management (SLM) methods were implemented this year. Methods were Demo Plots, Maintenance of Nursery and Establishment of Seed Bank
- A total of 56 farm plans completed and distributed to farmers by Crop Extension and Land Resource Planning & Development Division
- Participated in the Thirteenth session of Committee Meeting on Review of the Implementation of the Convention- CRIC 13th (23rd -28th March, 2015. BONN, GERMANY) which was attended by the Acting Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Director LRPD and SRO Land Use
- Attended the First Global Steering Committee Meeting on Action Against Desertification Project in Brussels, Belgium which was attended by a/PRO Land Use
- Celebrated Soil International Day in line with the World Day to Combat Desertification
- 6 Community land care groups formed (Vunimako, Seaqaqa, Koroipita, Lautoka, Narikoso Village, Naduru, Saqani, Siberia, Labasa, Motu, Ba)

Coordinated various programs implemented by line Ministries and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's)

The ministry coordinated with other Ministries and agencies on different related projects addressing common issues at National, Provincial and Household level. These were some projects in which the Ministry partnered with other line ministries.

- The Ministry, through the Land Resource Planning & Development Staff continued with the REDD+ Project Implementation with GIZ; Climate Change Adaptation project with WWF, Continuation on the Narikoso Village Relocation with SPC & GIZ & CC Unit Implementing of the new project – Action Against Desertification with FAO & Forestry Dept.
- Year of Soils in collaboration with Ministry of Fisheries & Forest, REDD+ Secretariat/GIZ, SPC, WWF, & Inline Division – Research, Extension & AH&P.
- Compilation of CB2 Project MEA Officer TOR to be submitted to GEF Focal Point, Continuation R2R GEF 5 project consultation with GEF Focal point and other relevant Ministries and NGO's.
- IACT- land prepared and seedlings sown for eggplant trials at SRS; Grace Road Food Company – 4 rice varieties and rice planter

Promoted and Strengthened food security programs to enhance community based disaster risk reduction initiatives, strengthened effective planning, response and recovery to natural disasters and revitalization of indigenous disaster resilience crops/livestock [e.g. Via]

- A total of 33 awareness programs on Disaster Response and Preparedness was undertaken this year by Crop Extension, Land Resource Planning & Development and Crop Research Division which many farmers attended [1000+].
- 680 Calliandra seedling supplied to farmers for the provision of Vertiver grass and NFT planting materials (300 Vertifier, 50 Glaricida, 475 potting Calliandra supplied)

FARM MANAGEMENT PROJECT

- Total Budget: \$120,000
- In support of the Government Priority on Reducing Poverty to a Negligible Level by 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture implemented the following sector driven strategies this year;
- Capacity Building on Subsistence farmers
- 183 farmers trainings and farmers field school were conducted this year
- A total of 26 Sustainable Land Management (SLM) and Farm Management Training were conducted this year (20 community based training, 3 Training of Trainers, 6 Farm Management Training for farmers)
- The Ministry also provided lecturers at Navuso Agriculture School on Topics such as Soil Science and Farm Management
- Ministry also participated in the Environment Day and World Food Day



2015 MAJOR COMMITMENTS OF THE MINISTRY TOWARDS LAND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT



Fiji's delegation to the UNCCD 12th Session COP at the "Congressium Ankara - ATO International Convention and Exhibition Centre" in Ankara, Turkey from 12 to 23 October 2015 where Fiji delegation includes Assistant Minister – Hon Cawaki, Director LRPD and SRO Land Use.



Fiji's delegation to the 13th session on Committee Review of the Implementation of Convention (23rd -28th March, 2015) BONN, GERMANY) attended by Acting Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Director LRPD and SRO Land Use.



Sustainable Land Management Awareness Training during the Parliamentarian Retreat in Natadola.



Community Awareness on Sustainable Land Use Management in Vaturova Village, Cakaudrove



One of the Sustainable Land Management Practice or Demonstration conducted by the Ministry in Vunaniu, Serua



LAND & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OVERVIEW

In 2015, the Ministry was allocated with \$9,659,031 million to facilitate sustainable land and water resource management for agricultural development. Thus, \$5.9 million was assigned for Flood Protection Program, \$1.1 million for Irrigation Services, \$0.71 million for Watershed and \$2 million for Drainage Subsidy.

In support of the Government priority of making more land available for productive and social services, the Ministry of Agriculture implemented the following sector driven strategies this year;

Effective Land Use Management Practices

- Reviewed and submitted the new Land and Water Resource Management Decree to the Parliament Natural Resource Committee

Timely Delivery of Flood Protection Land Drainage And Irrigation Infrastructure

The Ministry was able to conduct the following Flood Protection work, Land Drainage work and Irrigation Infrastructure development this year.

- Ba River dredging
 - Total volume dredged is 1,391,524 cubic meters
- Nailaga Village bank protection
- Constructions of small scale check dams (retention weirs) to minimize the impact of flooding
- Completion of Namosi dam No. 1 and No. 2
- A total of eight (8) irrigation schemes maintained under which 2,292 hectares of land developed is used for rice and vegetable cultivation.
- In the Central Division, works were undertaken in the Navua Irrigation Scheme. In the Northern Division works were undertaken in the seven (7) schemes; Dreketi, Korokadi, Nasarawaqa, Droca, Votua, Vunivau and Naruwai.
- Irrigation scheme in these areas were to support rice revitalization initiatives to increase rice production and reduce rice imports.
- Drainage improvement works were also undertaken in Daloko, Vunivau and Naruwai.
 - **Central Division Drainage Board:** undertake works in 40 schemes
 - **Northern Division Drainage Board:** 12 sugar drainage schemes developed under 3,700 hectares. Under its jurisdiction the Labasa Drainage Board maintains 163 km of drains, 34 km of walls, 36 outfall structures (floodgate and flap gate) and 282 associated drainage structures.
 - **Western Division Drainage Board:** Complete drainage works for 40 sugarcane drainage schemes with 12,400 hectares of



PM opens Matainoco LWRM Project



LWRM Drainage works at the Nakorovou village



LWRM Division conducting a meeting with the Ministry of Lands

sugarcane land improved for cultivation. Under its jurisdiction, the Western Division Drainage Board maintains 272 km of drains, 18 km of seawalls, 28 outfall structures (flood gate and flap gate) and 425 associated drainage structures.

Drought mitigation plan on preparedness and response

- 4 potential water resources sites were identified for water resource mapping strategy for planning drought relief effort to reduce livestock mortality and to sustain crop production. These were Dawasamu, Korovou & Sasake, Bua and Drasa, Lautoka.

Table 15: Regional Projects

Division	Achievements
Extension Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vunivesi farm road scoping 1.3km completed • Matasawalevu farm road 2km upgraded Taganikula Irrigation inspection and survey plan completed • Sawani farm road works in Bua • Upgrading of Nagadoa farm road • Upgrading of Nasadrou Farm road • Waikava and Qalaka road scoping works • Construction of machinery shed at Labasa dredge • Tukavesi staff quarters, drawings completed • Scope of works provided for agricultural buildings in Dreketi, Seaqaqa and Labasa • Nursery shed design and drawing completed • Completion of 2 km of scope of works in Corika farm road, Rakiraki. • Completion of 1.5km works of upgrading farm roads in Nadrala, Sigatoka • Technical advice on drainage survey plan provided for Sigavou Valley development phase 3 • Design and installation of irrigation system for Nadurumoli farmers Group in Sigatoka. • Technical advice of works provided for Nadarivatu Development, Naidu's farm in Rakiraki and Narend's farm in Tavua. • Completed drawings and scope of works for Rakiraki conference room and VCO shed at Veidrala, Rakiraki. • Namarai quarters and office building construction and monitoring of construction works • Providing technical advice, survey and supervision for flatland development works in the Central Division
AH&P Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 storey timber office building drawing • Providing technical advice and scope of works for demolition of existing buildings due to road widening • Upgrading of dairy farm roads in Nakorovou (1.6km) and Qaraivi, Tailavu (1km) • Scope of works completed in Wainiyau Dairy, Naitutu, Nukuloa and Lutu. • Provision of the floor rehabilitation for Naqali Chilling Station. • Designing and drawings of 30 sow piggery for Waila project, car wash bay and dog house for Vet Lab at Koronivia. • Technical assistance provided for AH&P compound for sewerage leakage and drainage improvement works. • Pasture irrigation for 5 sites in the Western Division

Research Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical advice of culvert crossing for Koronivia Research. • JUNCAO technology building in Legalega, Nadi. Inspections and technical advice during construction works. • Technical report on mini irrigation system for Seaqaqa Research Station • Building drawings provided for Dama Research Station • Technical advice provided for agronomy building at Koronivia Research station.
Land Resource Planning & Development Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nawaqadamu rural road design and drawings completed • Irrigation design completed- Nadi
Office of the Prime Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buca Bay Villages- Loa, Kanakana and Karoko Village coastal works investigation undertaken and provided to CND • Solotavui Village Seawall investigation • Sauniwaqa- drainage desilting • Nakorovou Village drainage works • Qelekuro Village seawall investigation
Commissioner Central Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waidina River - Wainiwaqa Village river bank erosion • Wainimala River- Serea Village bank erosion • Nadakuni Village bank protection • Namuka Village proposed seawall • Waikalou flap gate structure construction supervision • Daku Village investigation for village reclamation • Vunibau Village bank protection
Commissioner Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Namoli Village erosion- inspection, technical advice provided • Nawairuku Village- bank protection investigation • Nakorovou Village- river bank erosion
PA (Nadroga/ Navosa)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation for bank protection for the following villages; Laselase, Nawamagi, Mavua and Raiwaqa
Commissioner Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage works - Vuinadi Village • Bank protection investigation-Savudrodoro Village • Nabala Government Road Show (17.06.15- 18.06.15)
PA Cakaudrove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation plan investigation- Vunivesi
PA Macuata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank protection- Namara Wailevu
Commissioner Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seawall investigation- Taviya, Rukuruku, Nauouo, Namuana, Nasegai, Solodamu, Solotavui • Flood protection Construction works. This project was funded by CED Office. Contract no. WSC 59/ 2015 and contractor was Multi Works Ltd- Toki Village, Levuka (successfully completed)
NDMO Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naivakacau Village seawall/ drainage improvement works, technical assistance provided for planning and construction project management. Funded by NDMO Office, Contract awarded to K. Lal & Sons Ltd. Works was delayed due to change in location of seawall by villagers • Kumi Village Coastal protection works technical assistance provided for planning and construction project management. Funded by NDMO Office. Contract awarded to Viti Vanua Holdings Ltd. • Nabitu Village bank protection works. Funded from NDMO Office. Contract awarded to Multi Works Ltd

Ministry of Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cautata State Land Agricultural drainage improvement works. Facilitated through MOU between Ministry of Lands and Ministry of Agriculture. Contract number was WSC 139/ 2015 and contractor was Fariza Holdings Ltd
Stakeholders & Investors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grace Road Food Company- Drainage improvements in Wainidova, Deuba Navua Agriculture Marketing Authority- Construction inspections and technical advice were provided during construction. Goodman Fielder- drainage improvement in Waila, Lakena, Manoca. Ranadi Plantation- outlet drainage clearing Uprising Resort- Flap gate structure outlet drain cleaned Nausori Airport- desilting of drains Kelton Enterprise- drainage improvement in Calia Nausori Town Council- consultations with JICA volunteers on drainage Fiji Roads Authority- consultation on flooding in Navua & Nausori areas. Consultation on road alignment at AH&P building and drains within KRS farm Housing Authority- technical advice on drainage for Waqadra subdivision development Sugar Research Institute of Fiji (SRIF)- technical advice on sugar irrigation Crab Company of Fiji- technical advice on design of ponds



2015 MINISTRY'S MAJOR COMMITMENTS TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & RURAL OUTER ISLAND



Tilivalevu farmers during a consultation meeting with Agriculture Officials.



These are the Best Farmers of Central Division this year. Among them, is 35 year old Eseta who owns a piggery farm in Tovata and Wailase and she has been actually applying the concept of Integrated Farming System and working toward becoming a Commercialized Organic Piggery Farmer by 2017. She was awarded the Best Woman in Agriculture Award



Youth and Womens Training on Farming as a Business conducted at Tavua Village this year



The Ministry allocated two weeks for all Fijian farmers, agro processors and resource owners for public consultations all over the country. This activity was organized in order to inform the communities about the assistance provided by the Ministry with regards to their crops and livestock. The Ministry is trying to reach the grass root level to inform them the allocated programs and funds suitable for them.



Women empowerment in agriculture



ECONOMIC PLANNING & STATISTICS

OVERVIEW

The Division holds an important role in formulating the Agriculture Sector development policies, appropriate strategies and subsequent program activities in accordance with the Government strategic plan, establish and enhance effective sustainable linkages with external organizations, including global donor agencies at bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral levels, analyse policy and assess its impact to the agriculture sector. The Division also provides executive support services to management and appraise consultancy services to individuals and organizations, as and when required and coordinates and formulates Disaster Risk and Response Plan for all agricultural farmers through Disaster Preparedness Awareness; enhancing capacity building and technical knowledge within the Ministry.

POLICY & INTERNATIONAL RELATION MATTERS

In support of the Government priority of enhancing public sector efficiency, performance effectiveness & service delivery, the Ministry of Agriculture implemented the following sector driven strategies;

Review and develop Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- Ministry of Agriculture signed 14 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in 2015 with Taki Mai, Navuso Agriculture School, Tutu Training Centre, Rice Farm Dreketi, Lab Accreditation, Carptrac, Asco Motors, South Pacific Fertilizers, Ag Chem, Basic Industries, FCDCL and other Agro Input Companies.
- 5 Bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with the Government of India and Philippines

Formulate new and review existing Acts, other legislations and policies.

- Consultations conducted by the Consultants on the new legislations of the Ministry formulated in 2015; Feed Bill, Women in Agriculture Policy, Youth in Agriculture Policy, Organizational Risk Management Policy, Drafted Recruitment & Training Policy, Seed Policy and Kava Bill
- Pesticide Bill submitted to AG's Office
- Reviewed Livestock Acts; Meat Industry Act [Cap 237], Dairies Act [Cap 118], Dogs Act [160], Co-operative Dairy Act [Cap 119], Protection of Animals Act [Cap 169]

Cabinet Papers Submission to Cabinet

- A total of 6 Cabinet Papers were submitted and approved this year from Cabinet; APCC, 3 Cabinet Papers for IFAD and CAPSA Annual Subscription. Other Cabinet Papers submitted were Zero Hunger, Commercial Agriculture

Scholarship Program, Sheep & Goat Breeding Program, MOU with Thailand, Facilitation Committee, 1 Nadi River Diversion and 1 Hubei Province

Facilitate consultations and meetings

- The Division plays an important role as Secretariat of various Councils and Committee Meetings such as Food Security and Livelihood Cluster partners, Disaster Risk Awareness Committee, Kava Councils, Fiji Crop & Livestock Council, Ginger Task Force Committee and many others. This year, a total of \$13,000 was allocated for awareness trainings and meetings for the improvement of community's response capacity in dealing with disasters, risks and preparedness. There were altogether six meetings and 2 trainings conducted this year.

ARGICULTURE TRADE & COMMODITY DEVELOPMENT

In support of the Government Priority of Achieving Higher Economic Growth while ensuring sustainability, the Ministry of Agriculture implemented the following sector driven strategies;

Facilitate Market development and market access, Strengthening of Industry Councils to spearhead and coordinate commodity development and Capacity Building at Community level for Commercial Agriculture

- Ministry of Agriculture was allocated with \$70,000 for the facilitation of market development and market access this year; Provision of Marketing Information Services and Research and Trade facilitation had \$30,000, Market Intelligence through Promotion and scoping mission had \$40,000.
- The Ministry launched the Market Survey Database and issued 11 tablets to Extension Officers for collation of municipal market prices.
- An Agriculture delegation visited United States of America in 2015 for a market scoping mission which was headed by the Acting Permanent Secretary, Mr. Uraia Waibuta, a representative from the Biosecurity of Fiji, Pacific Horticultural Market Access Programme (PHARMA) and the Agriculture Marketing Authority (AMA). The delegation visited the US to explore the export commodity markets in particular commodities like dalo, cassava, coconut, ginger, eggplant, pineapple and yaqona.
- The Ministry also managed to conduct one local market promotion through the Hotel and Tourism Exhibition Show
- For strengthening of industry councils to spearhead and coordinate commodity development, \$40,000 was utilized for; one market promotion in Australia, Supported HACCP accreditation for 6 exporters, Facilitated 5 Ginger Taskforce Meetings and the

Soft Launch of Fresh Ginger export to Australia and facilitated 40 support for duty concession.

Coordinated and monitor compliance of CODEX requirements

- Hosted one Codex Meeting with the presence of 11 members and attended the 38th Session of Codex Meeting in Geneva this year.

DEVELOPED QUALITY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SYSTEM

This year, \$400,000 was allocated specifically for continuous improvement of Agriculture Statistics where a number of major activities were planned and executed, achieving the following outputs.

- Conducted Basic Statistics Training to all Agriculture Officers across the four Geographical Divisions. The training was focused mainly on Basic Statistics Concepts.
- Launched the Farming Household Baseline Survey to ensure establishment of a suitable frame (farmers listing) for future Agriculture Censuses and Surveys.
- A number of Consultations and Meetings were also conducted with the Implementing Divisions and other Stakeholders of agriculture statistics.
- Organized and facilitated 2 Weeks CS PRO Training in partnership with SPC Statistics Division, Noumea to enhance capability of officers in the formation of Sustainable Agriculture Statistic Database on a CS Pro platform.
- Produce a Standard Frame (Farmers Listing) of the Ministry

MONITORING & EVALUATION

With \$7,000, the Ministry was able to monitor and evaluated Demand Driven Approach (DDA) Programs, LWRM Programs, Coconut Development Program, Rice Revitalization Program and Dairy Industry Support Program in the Northern and Western Division. A total of \$5,000 was used for the review of the Nadarivatu Development Programme and Sigatoka Valley Development Program.

PROJECT & BUDGET

Facilitated the formulation of the 2016 Ministry's Budget through Consultations with 7 Divisions in the Ministry, verified 64 Demand Driven Approach Projects and coordinated Technical Working Group Meeting with National Steering Committee Meeting for approval of the identified potential projects.



Monitoring and Evaluation team visit farmers in the West.



Statistics Unit conducted training for Central Division



Delegation at the US Department of Agriculture

2015 MAJOR COMMITMENTS OF THE MINISTRY TOWARDS QUICK ECONOMIC RECOVERY THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEMAND DRIVEN APPROACH & OTHER COMMODITY PROJECTS



An Agriculture delegation went for a scoping mission to the United States of America (USA) this year. The delegation explored new potential market opportunities for Fijian products, tracked the main existing distribution channels of Fiji's fresh produce, profiled key distributors of our yaqona, cassava, dalo, ginger and papaya and ascertained the cost factors of exporting to the US.



As part of continued efforts to enhance the collection and dissemination of market prices, the Ministry of Agriculture in partnership with the Information Trade Centre [ITC] based in Geneva conducted training using tablets for a group of extension and economic planning and statistics (EP&S) officers. ITC consultant Stephane Boyera also handed over 12 tablets to the Deputy Secretary Corporate Services Maca Tulakepa who received it on behalf of the officers from the Ministry



The dairy industry in Fiji achieved another milestone as the Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime and National Disaster Management Hon. Inia Seruiratu officially opened the Waidalice Chilling Centre Farmers' Cooperative Warehouse in Korovou.



The Ministry of Agriculture presented 28 year old Anilesh Prasad of Visama feeder road in Nausori with a tractor and farming implements. Anilesh has been able to prove himself over the years as a successful young farmer and there was an urgent need to assist him with a tractor so he could maximize production on his 15 acre agricultural land.



A team from Ministry of Agriculture supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Australian Center Institute for Agricultural Research (ACIAR) conduct Consultations in Vanua Levu this year encouraging farmers to produce quality and clean dalo for the export market.



HUMAN RESOURCE, FINANCE & INFORMATION

OVERVIEW

The Human Resource, Finance & Information Division's core role in this Ministry is to facilitate the best and excellent service support. These roles are guided by the Public Service Commission General Orders, Financial Instructions and State Service Decree or other relevant approved procedures.

The objective of the Division is captivated by the Public Service Deliverables which has been handed down by the Public Service Commission as the common work output factor for all Government Ministries and Corporate Divisions to follow. It is anticipated that these PSC deliverables will enhance the Corporate Services workflow to be effective and efficient in line with the Vision and Mission of this Ministry. In 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture had a total of 1,060 staff employed in different fields of technical areas providing services to farmers.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES

The supportive role of Information and Communication Unit of the Ministry is critical in enhancing the Ministry's corporate image. This year, 152 press releases were issued unfolding highlights of major events and achievements at local and international arena by the Ministry for public awareness. Moreover, 22 press features were issued highlighting stories of successful farmers and 36 news items were also produced for media coverage.

As part of Pillar 4 in the Peoples Charter for Change and Progress on Enhancing Public Sector Efficiency, Performance Effectiveness and Service Delivery, the Ministry identified a strategy this year achieving the following agriculture pro-

motion activities.

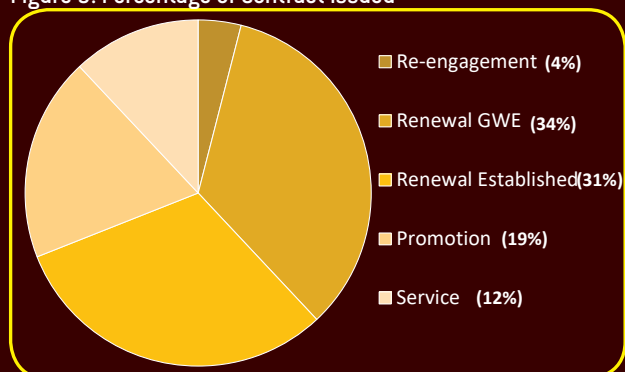
- 468 iTaukei and Hindi Programmes were produced and delivered for media coverage.
- Attended five radio talkback shows
- Produced four market watch articles
- 379 help desk queries were also attended this year.
- Media Promotion was carried out this year at the Agriculture Show at the 4 Geographical Divisions, Live-stock
- Forum Meeting in Nadi, Government Centre Display and the successful creation of the Ministry's Twitter Account.
- 1 Taro Pathway DVD was created and a leaflet was also designed
- Fiji Agriculture Journal Volume 55 published.
- 9 publications and 3 Apiculture Media Release for Animal Health & Production Division
- Kumala Fact-Sheet was produced with Technical bulletin on how to graft tomatoes with eggplant were published.

MANAGEMENT OF POST & PERSONNEL MATTERS OF EMPLOYEES

This year, an additional 15 officers got New Acting posts and 102 new temporary officers. For implementation of Ongoing Projects in the Ministry, 205 Project Staff were recruited this year which is 86% more than the number recruited last year. Apart from that, the Ministry also engaged staff on Casual basis and this year 67 Casual Staff were employed.

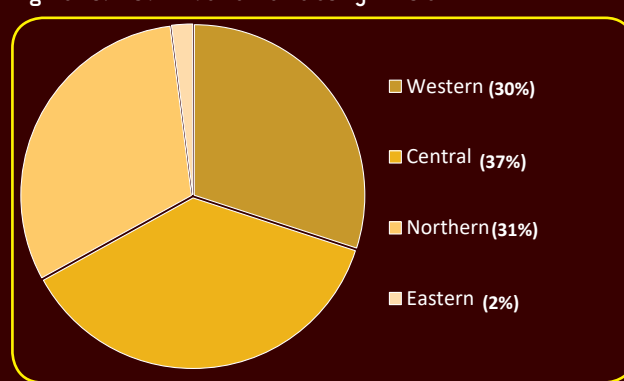
It was unfortunate that 9 staff had retired from service this year along with the resignation of 12 employees from the Ministry compared to 10 resignation letters received last year.

Figure 9: Percentage of Contract Issued



Source: 2015 HRFI Annual Report

Figure 10: Distribution of Vehicles by Division



Source: 2015 HRFI Annual Report

POST PROCESSING MATTERS

For effective, efficient management of post processing matters, confirmation of accurate information, line post status, forecasting of vacancies, preparing of vacancy returns, timely advertisement of vacancies, the Ministry was able to successfully deliver its service. Hence 117 established positions were advertised and 246 contracts were issued for both Established and GWE positions this year.

CAPACITY BUILDING

The Ministry of Agriculture was allocated with \$200,000 for all capacity building matters and activities of all targeted outcome this year. A total of 20 trainings were conducted to stakeholders of Agriculture Sector who directly and indirectly contribute to the development and achievement of the desired outcome of the Ministry.

There were 29 overseas short courses, conferences and seminars attended by the staff, 21 officers took study leave and 40 local scholarships were awarded for academic trainings this year.

ETHICS & DISCIPLINE

Strict compliance to proper processes rules and regulations ensures reduction in disciplinary cases to a minimum level within the Ministry. The Ethics and Discipline Unit is tasked to provide efficient, effective administrative

support for discipline matters, assess investigation report, and establish tribunal investigation teams and liaise with stakeholders.

This year, a total of 21 disciplinary cases were pending which is 19% less compared to 2014. This signifies the improvement in employee's compliance to the Public Service Code of conduct and other processes, rules and regulations of the Government and Ministry.

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

For easy access to accurate, timely and useful information, the Ministry was able to achieve the following outputs tabulated below.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

The Ministry also effectively managed all Assets and compile accurate information on Vehicles, Quarters, and Land Leases and prepared returns to the Ministry of Economy. There are 276 vehicles operating and 388 Quarters of which 44 are still vacant.

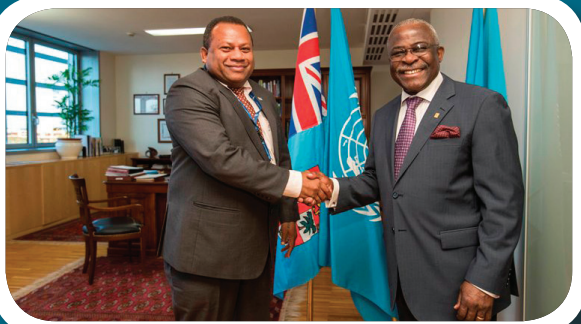
In 2015, there are 79 leased lands under MOA whereby 30% are in the Northern Division, 25% in Western Division, 29% in Central Division and 15% in the Eastern Division. However, only 30% of these leased land was surveyed and 70% has yet to be surveyed.

Table 16: Achievements of IT Services

Targets	Achievements	Remarks
Support of existing IT infrastructure	Providing GOVNET access to staff in Dreketi, Labasa (except LWRM), Seaqaqa Research and Extension and Nabouwalu	Structured cabling for these stations was completed during 3rd -4th Quarter of 2015
Survey of 11 stations to have Easytel and CDMA boosters in North	1. Kedra Extension Station; 2. Korotasere Extension Station 3. Lekutu Agriculture Station 4. Daria Agriculture Station 5. Luvuluvu Agriculture Station 6. Wainigata Research Station 7. Batiri Sheep station 8. Taveuni Research Development Centre 9. Namuavoivoi Extension station 10. Korokadi Extension Station 11. Nasarawaqa Extension	Initial survey conducted in liaison with; ITC; TFL and MOA IT.
IT Support	Purchasing of IT equipment's for Agriculture stations.	12 New Computers were purchased for newly created posts and outer stations.

Source: 2015 HRFI Annual Report

2015 MAJOR COMMITMENTS OF THE MINISTRY TOWARDS PORTFOLIO LEADERSHIP, POLICY ADVICE AND SECRETARIAT SUPPORT



The Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime and National Disaster Management visited Rome in Italy and met with the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Mr. Kanayo. During the meeting, discussions focused on addressing the needs of smallholder farmers and poor rural people, achieving national food security and consolidating bilateral cooperation.



Hon. Inia Seruiratu successfully negotiated financial assistance of US\$6m to fund the Fiji Agricultural Partnership Project (FAPP) with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) during his visit to Rome, Italy



Hon. Inia Seruiratu and Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, together with the Fijian High Commissioner to India and Acting Permanent Secretary of Agriculture met with the Indian Minister for Rural Development and Indian Minister for Agriculture in Delhi to progress talks on a number of key bilateral issues that were discussed during Prime Minister Modi's recent highly successful visit to Fiji.



In 2015 the Ministry's headquarters were re-organized into two separate headquarters namely Strategic HQ and Operations HQ.



Close to 4,000 people in the Northern Division attended the Agriculture Show in Labasa this year. There were several other Agriculture Shows held around the country; West Agriculture Show at Garvey Park, Tavua and the Central Division Show at Syria Park, Nausori while the Eastern Divisions at Levuka, Kadavu and Lau towards the end of this year. The Ra Agriculture Show was also held at Rakiraki.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

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OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Excellence in Public Sector Auditing



6-8th Floor, Ratu Sukuna House
2-10 McArthur St
P.O. Box 2214, Government Buildings
Suva, Fiji

Telephone: (679) 330 9032
Fax: (679) 330 3812
Email: info@auditorgeneral.gov.fj
Website: <http://www.oag.gov.fj>



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

AGENCY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

Scope

I have audited the special purpose financial statements which have been prepared under the cash basis of accounting and notes 1 to 3 thereon of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended 31 December 2015. The financial statements comprise the following:

- (i) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure;
- (ii) Appropriation Statement;
- (iii) Consolidated TMA - Manufacturing Account;
- (iv) Consolidated TMA - Trading Account;
- (v) Consolidated TMA - Profit and Loss Statement;
- (vi) Consolidated TMA - Balance Sheet;
- (vii) Trust Account Statement of Receipts and Payments; and
- (viii) Statement of Losses

The management of the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the special purpose financial statements and the information contained therein.

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these special purpose financial statements based on my audit.

My audit was conducted in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the special purpose financial statements are free of material misstatements. My audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the special purpose financial statements and evaluation of accounting policies. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the special purpose financial statements are fairly stated and in accordance with government policies in Note 2 and the Audit Act and the Financial Management Act 2004, so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the financial performance of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended 31 December 2015.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Basis for Qualifications

Trading and Manufacturing Account (TMA)

1. Included in the Trading and Manufacturing Account (TMA) Balance Sheet is Deposits & Retention of \$22,113. I was not able to verify the amounts as the Ministry was not able to

ascertain the accuracy and completeness of liability in the Trading and Manufacturing Account as at 31 December 2015.

2. Included in the TMA Trading Account is Closing Stock of Finished Goods of \$709,078. I am unable to express an opinion on the accuracy and completeness of Closing Stock of Finished Goods as the Ministry did not carry out an independent stock take for the year ended 31 December 2015 and audit was not able to confirm the balance through alternative procedures given insufficient appropriate evidence.
3. There is an un-reconciled variance amounting to \$263,038 between the FMIS General Ledger cash balance and the TMA bank reconciliation statement. Accordingly, I was unable to ascertain the accuracy and completeness of the TMA Cash at bank balance of \$394,430 as at 31 December 2015.

Trust Account Statement of Receipt and Payments

4. The closing balance of the Trust Account Statement of Receipts and Payments of \$456,998 did not correspond to the Cash at Bank FMIS general ledger balance of \$968,582. Accordingly, I am unable to ascertain the accuracy and completeness of the Main Trust Fund balance as at 31 December 2015.

Statement of Loss

5. The Ministry did not carry out a Board of Survey for 2015. In the absence of a Board of Survey Report, the losses of fixed assets, if any, that occurred during the year could not be substantiated. Furthermore, the Ministry's loss report for 2015 did not include losses for the months of January to June. Consequently, I was not able to verify the accuracy and completeness of the Statement of Losses.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters referred to in the basis for qualified opinion paragraphs,

- (a) the financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies stated in Note 2, the financial performance of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended 31 December 2015.
- (b) the financial statements give the information required by the Financial Management Act 2004 in the manner so required.



Atunaisa Nadakuitavuki
for AUDITOR GENERAL

Suva, Fiji

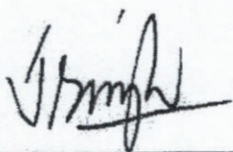


08 August 2016

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

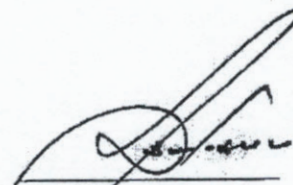
We certify that these financial statements:

- a) fairly reflect the financial operations and performance of the Ministry of Agriculture and its financial position for the year ended 31 December 2015; and
- b) have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 2004 and the Finance Instructions 2010.



Jitendra Singh
Permanent Secretary for Agriculture

Date: 23/7/16



Sikeli N. Baleisuva
A/Principal Accountant

Date: 26/7/16.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Notes	2015	2014
REVENUE			
Agricultural produce & Inspection Fees		92	2,345
License		75,359	60,427
Meat Inspection		23,635	20,484
Veterinary and Animal Quarantine		13,865	32,470
Sale of Sheep and Wool		33,872	-
Rest house		12,520	6,736
Rental for quarters		59,269	80,495
Registration		3,954	4,845
Commission		24,738	13,790
Sale of farm produce		44,763	97,665
Miscellaneous revenue		258,764	293,771
Overpayment recoveries		37,335	-
Water charges		1,169	4,380
Rural electrification		1,629	-
Total Revenue	3(a)	590,964	617,408

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE (CONT'D)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
EXPENDITURE			
Established staff	3(b)	13,336,531	13,143,921
Government wage earners	3(c)	5,704,307	6,001,018
Travel and communications		747,722	813,229
Maintenance & operations		2,001,578	2,291,822
Purchase of goods and services		608,131	1,078,682
Operating grants and transfers	3(d)	1,810,254	3,680,398
Special expenditures		2,037,870	1,252,880
Total Operating Expenditure		<u>26,246,393</u>	<u>28,261,950</u>
Capital construction	3(e)	15,925,337	17,707,996
Capital purchase		389,914	325,847
Capital grants and transfers	3(f)	6,992,224	7,295,128
Total Capital Expenditure		<u>23,307,475</u>	<u>25,328,971</u>
Value Added Tax		3,021,994	3,480,184
Total Expenditure		<u>52,575,862</u>	<u>57,071,105</u>

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATION STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

SEG	Item	Budget Estimate	Appropriation Changes	Revised Estimate	Actual Expenditure	Carry - over	Lapsed Appropriation
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1	Established Staff	14,162,446	-	14,162,446	13,336,531	-	825,915
2	Government Wage Earners	6,112,800	-	6,112,800	5,704,307	-	408,493
3	Travel & Communication	791,377	-	791,377	747,722	-	43,655
4	Maintenance & Operations	2,170,340	-	2,170,340	2,001,578	-	168,762
5	Purchase of Goods & Services	704,800	-	704,800	608,131	-	96,669
6	Operating Grants & Transfers	2,221,000	-	2,221,000	1,810,254	-	410,746
7	Special Expenditure	2,339,980	-	2,339,980	2,037,870	-	302,110
	Total Operating Costs	28,502,743	-	28,502,743	26,246,393	-	2,256,350
	Capital Expenditure						
8	Construction	22,086,000	-	22,086,000	15,925,337	-	6,160,663
9	Purchases	920,000	-	920,000	389,914	-	530,086
10	Grants & Transfers	9,130,000	-	9,130,000	6,992,224	-	2,137,776
	Total Capital Expenditure	32,136,000	-	32,136,000	23,307,475	-	8,828,525
13	Value Added Tax	4,333,488	-	4,333,488	3,021,994	-	1,311,494
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	64,972,231	-	64,972,231	52,575,862	-	12,396,369

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

CONSOLIDATED TRADING AND MANUFACTURING ACCOUNT (TMA)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

MANUFACTURING ACCOUNT	2015 \$	2014 \$
Opening Raw Material	-	-
Purchases	1,035,006	1,122,045
	<u>1,035,006</u>	<u>1,122,045</u>
Less: Closing Raw Material	-	-
Raw Material Used	<u>1,035,006</u>	<u>1,122,045</u>
Add: Direct Labour	7,858	15,071
Cost of Manufacturing Goods transferred to Trading Account	<u>1,042,864</u>	<u>1,137,116</u>
TRADING ACCOUNT		
Sales	3(g) 1,239,504	1,295,692
Opening stock of finished goods	1,014,577	1,058,578
Add: Cost of manufacturing goods	<u>1,042,864</u>	<u>1,137,116</u>
	2,057,441	2,195,694
Less: Closing stock of finished goods	<u>709,078</u>	<u>1,014,577</u>
Cost of finished goods sold	1,348,363	1,181,117
Add: Other Income	<u>773</u>	<u>-</u>
Gross (Loss)/Profit	<u>(108,086)</u>	<u>114,575</u>

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

COSOLIDATED TMA PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
INCOME		
Gross (Loss)/Profit transferred from Trading A/C	<u>(108,086)</u>	<u>114,575</u>
Total Income	<u>(108,086)</u>	<u>114,575</u>
EXPENSE		
Travelling & Communication Expenses	8,672	39,495
Maintenance & Operation	281,478	339,284
Other Expenses	<u>42,089</u>	<u>153,846</u>
Total Expense 3(h)	<u>332,239</u>	<u>532,625</u>
Net (Loss)/Profit	<u>(440,325)</u>	<u>(418,050)</u>

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
 CONSOLIDATED TMA BALANCE SHEET
 AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
LIABILITY		
Deposits & Retention	(22,113)	-
Total Liability	<u>(22,113)</u>	<u>-</u>
EQUITY		
TMA Surplus Capital Retained	1,845,486	2,263,536
Net (Loss)/Profit	(440,325)	(418,985)
Write Off	(255,813)	-
	1,149,348	1,844,551
TMA Surplus transferred to Consolidated Fund	(23,727)	220,629
Total Equity	<u>1,125,621</u>	<u>2,065,180</u>
Total Liability and Equities	<u><u>1,103,508</u></u>	<u><u>2,065,180</u></u>
ASSETS		
Cash	394,430	1,031,806
Accounts receivable	-	18,797
Finished goods	709,078	1,014,577
Total Assets	<u><u>1,103,508</u></u>	<u><u>2,065,180</u></u>

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

LAND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND LAND RESETTLEMENT PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

TRUST ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
RECEIPTS		
Retention Money	269,813	656,559
Total Receipts	<u>269,813</u>	<u>656,559</u>
PAYMENTS		
Retention Money	203,063	589,809
Total Payments	<u>203,063</u>	<u>589,809</u>
Surplus	66,750	66,750
Opening Balance at 1 January	390,248	323,498
Closing Balance as at 31 December	<u>456,998</u>	<u>390,248</u>

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

STATEMENT OF LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

Loss of Assets (Livestock)

Loss of livestock resulted from death of sheep, pig and cattle. The losses do not include submissions for write offs from the annual board of survey.

Description	2015 (\$)	2014 (\$)
Sheep	7,008	10,661
Pig	525	3,086
Cattle	1,250	2,370
Goat	1,274	1,063
Chicken	4,109	1,581
	<u>14,166</u>	<u>18,761</u>

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

NOTE 1 REPORTING ENTITY

The Ministry of Agriculture focus on diversifying, be market driven and improvements in its service delivery to realise the sector's full potential. Diversification into niche export and domestic markets is therefore necessary thus priority will be given to: facilitating private sector involvement in the development of agri-business; capacity building of farmers to raise levels of production from semi-subsistence to commercial levels; enhancement of Agricultural linkages; and promote food security and ensure sound land management and development.

NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Accounting/Presentation

In accordance with Government accounting policies, the financial statements of the Ministry of Agriculture is prepared on cash basis of accounting. All payments related to purchases of fixed assets have been expensed.

The financial statements are presented in accordance with the Financial Management Act and the requirements of Section 71(1) of the Finance Instruction 2010. The preparation and presentation of a Statement of Assets and Liabilities is not required under the current Government policies, except for that of the Trading and Manufacturing Accounts.

b) Accounting for Value Added Tax (VAT)

All income and expenses are VAT exclusive. The Ministry on a monthly basis takes out VAT output on total money received for expenditure from Ministry of Finance. VAT input on the other hand is claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred.

The VAT payment as per the consolidated statement of receipts and expenditure relates to the VAT input claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred and VAT payments to FRCA. Actual amount paid to FRCA during the year represent the difference between VAT Output and VAT Input.

c) Comparative Figures

Where necessary, amounts relating to prior years have been reclassified to facilitate comparison and achieve consistency in disclosure with current year amounts.

d) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised when actual cash is received by the Ministry.

e) Consolidated Trading and Manufacturing Activity

The consolidated Trading and Manufacturing Activity consist of Commercial Undertaking Livestock, Crop Extension, Machinery Operation Hire and Fuel & Oil operation.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

NOTE 3 SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS

- (a) Total Revenue collected dropped by \$26,444 in 2015 mainly due to the enforcement of the rent deduction percentage from 8% to 4%.
- (b) Established Staff increase by \$218,611 in 2015 compared to 2014. The increase in expenditure was a result more vacant positions were filled in 2015. There were also approved leave compensation and overtime payments made in the same year.
- (c) General Wage Earners expenditure decreased by \$296,711 in 2015 compared to 2014. The decrease is a direct result in the prudent management of overtime hour and overtime compensation.
- (d) Operating Grants and Transfers expenditure decreased by \$1,870,144 as a result of the reduction in the budget for SEG 6. Biosecurity Authority of Fiji grants of \$1.6 million was reduced from the 2015 budget Authority.
- (e) Capital Construction expenditure decreased by \$1,782,659 in 2015 mainly due to difficulty faced by officers in trying to implement capital programs. Problems such as difficulties in obtaining reputable companies to provide services specifically in projects where construction of farm roads and repair and maintenances of quarters are involved and the delay from the suppliers due to non-availability of required materials.

Capital programs undertaken during the year were mainly related to the Crop Extension Services, Livestock Extension Services, Research, Irrigation Improvement and Land, Drainage and Flood Protection services provided by the Ministry.
- (f) Capital Grants and Transfers decreased by \$302,904 in 2015 compared to 2014. It was mainly attributed to delay in the implementation of the Land clearing project and Beef multiplication program.
- (g) The TMA sales decreased by \$56,188 in 2015 compared to 2014.
- (h) The TMA expenses decreased by \$200,386 as there were no purchase of new truck or renovations like in 2014.



(+679) 338 4233



Ministry of Agriculture Fiji



Fiji Agriculture



agrihelp@govnet.gov.fj



www.agriculture.gov.fj