

FARMER TO FARMER - PRACTICES FOR RESILIENCE SERIES

MAHOLI METHODS

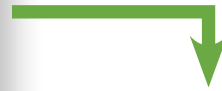
Maholis or bananas are an important food and income source in Niue. They are also vulnerable especially to strong, gale force winds associated with cyclones.

Niuean farmers do a simple mitigation technique before the winds strike. It saves crops



Removing the leaves

Remove the leaves of a banana tree by cutting them off. This allows the tree to offer less resistance to the wind and keeping it upright. Niuean farmers believe it is easier to lose a few leaves than a whole plant. Leaves can regrow quickly to feed the plant. Losing a plant will mean months of waiting before a new plant reaches maturity.



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