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Canada: The New SweeTango apple creates a lot of excitement

As the newest apple variety to be grown in Nova Scotia, SweeTango was recently introduced to select audiences resulting in rave reviews. The SweeTango is a cross between two much loved varieties, the Honeycrisp and the Zestar apples.

Scotian Gold Cooperative's growers have 55 acres (22 HA) of SweeTango orchards which are still in development, and harvested three bins for sampling this season. They plan to plant an additional 45 acres (18HA) next spring. Scotian Gold Cooperative is located in the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia, Scotian Gold's fruit tree specialist Larry Lutz predicts a harvest of 60+ bins next season, which they plan to sell to the local Atlantic Canadian market.



"The taste is amazing," David Parrish, Vice President Sales, Scotian Gold Cooperative tells us, "In my opinion, it has the juicy crunch of a Honeycrisp with the a flavour combination of sweet and tart. It's described as having the same explosive crunch as the Honeycrisp, but a flavour that is definitely unique and a bit more complex."

Last weekend Scotian Gold sampled SweeTango in Halifax, and were over whelmed by the number of people who came to sample the new apple, asking for it specifically. The feedback was very positive. "Samplers loved the juiciness of the apple and commented on the sweet and tart flavours, really enjoying the depth of flavour of the SweeTango," David explained, "Everyone is anxious to find our newest apple on the store shelves next year."



SweeTango was developed by breeders at the University of Minnesota, it is sweet and juicy with a hint of fall spices and features the satisfying "crunch" of a Honeycrisp. It is a blush apple with deep red colouration over a yellow breaking background.

SweeTango will hit the shelves, in limited volumes, at select retailers beginning in fall of 2010. SweeTango is an early-season apple, harvested in early September.