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### The Modi'® apple makes its way to the US

An agreement involving the Modi® apple, has been reached betw een C.I.V. -Consorzioitaliano Vivaisti, the North American branch of International New Varieties Netw ork and NAINN, composed of the four main nurseries, specialized in the development of new fruit varieties : the C&O Nursery, Pro Tree Nursery, Van Well Nursery, Willow Drive Nursery and the Californian distributor, Farmington Fresh.

NAINN and Farmington Fresh, are in charge of the first production and marketing of the variety CIV G198 in the US, and are intending to plant an initial 200 acres (81ha) with the intention to reach 600 acres (242ha) in the near future, in California's Central Valley.



"Modi® is an incredible product: a grow er-friendly apple with a smaller carbon footprint, something which is important to our customers. We're enthusiastic about this chance," commented David Rajkovich, founding partner Farmington Fresh. "The CIVG198 variety might have a remarkable impact on apple producers in California. Unlike other region such us Oregon and Washington State, California's Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley's grow ing areas are very hot and dry and we believe that these conditions make Modi®CIVG19 extremely appropriate to our region and climate".

"We are deeply interested in taking advantage of the value of the crop, using the small sized and slightly marked apples for slicing, something which will generate increased profit for the grow er." states Rajkovich. "The brand identity - red with a hint of yellow - as well as the talian naming "Modi®" will help differentiate the CIVG198 variety from the others in our location on the west coast", continues Rajkovich "To start with, we will focus on few retailers supporting Modi®, with promotions to the higher-end retail outlets, and will eventually introduce the Modi® apple to the club stores too."

"We have confidence that Modi®'s superior internal pressures, its special flavours and storage qualities will further facilitate distinguish Farmington's "Sweet Apple Bites" as the highest quality value added apple products on the market."

"The common aim of the Modi® International project is to develop the CIVG198 variety, aiding the exchange of best practices in the production segment , and coordinating branding policies for Modi® in the international market." "We are really pleased to announce the entry of NAINN and Farmington Fresh into the project Modi® and we are confident that, as major players in the U.S. fruit, the new partners will offer their considerable know-how in production and marketing to the development the brand, "says Marica Soattin, General Director of the CIV.

Global production is currently around 18,000 tonnes per annum, mainly grow n in Europe in addition to increasing amounts in Turkey, Serbia, Russia, Uruguay and Australia.

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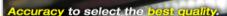


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Feijoa, Australia's next big thing Turkish exporters encounter problems this season "Expect a sharp tapering-off of Indian grape supply" Colombia: Banacol Group files for corporate restructuring California Straw berry Commission releases economic report

## Top 5 - last week

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Euro foreign exchange reference rates Source: ECB



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