



IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

Garden Tips: Exciting new NON GMO apple varieties

Apple Lane Gift Shop: Fresh planters and centerpieces

New fall hours: 9-5 daily Mon. - Sat.

Closed Sundays

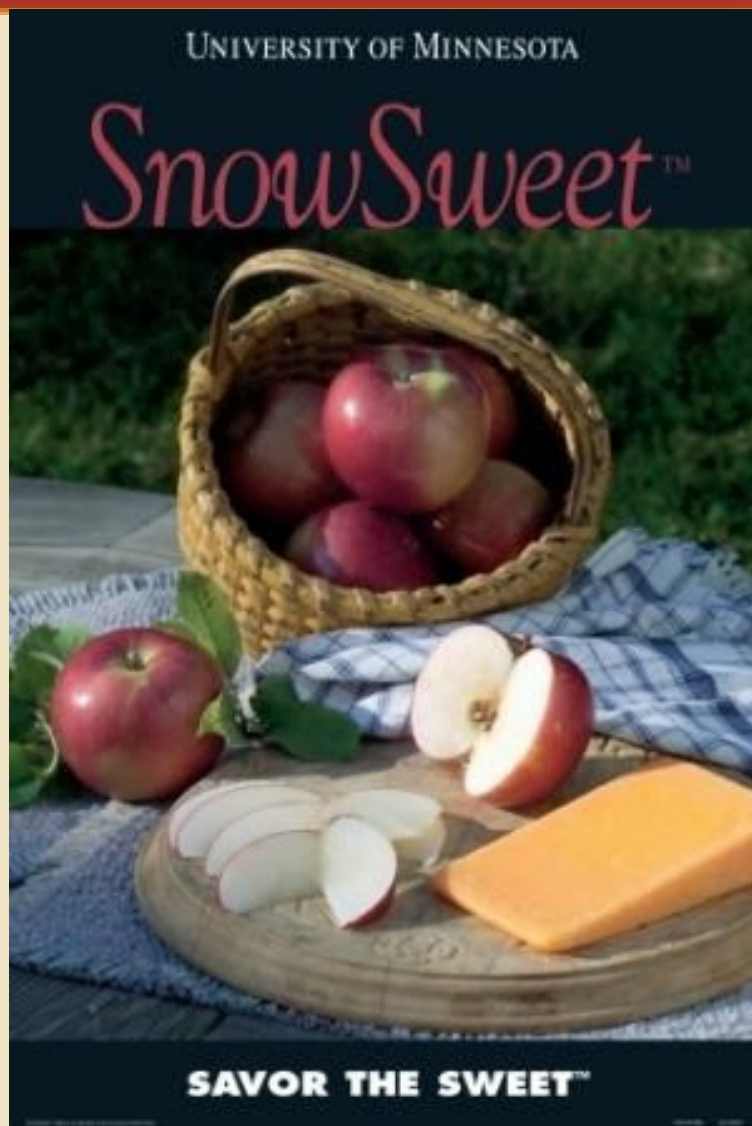
Dec. 12th E-NEWS

Here it is, almost the middle of December, and I've (almost) finished booking Spring 2014 nursery stock for the Garden Center. Considering that I prefer to have this done by the end of October, it's a great relief that the end is in sight. I've found it hard to get into the spirit of the season with this task hanging over my head but the snow we've been getting the last few days is definitely helping to put me in the mood. Not that I want much snow, mind you, but it's good to have enough to create a nice insulating blanket for the plants. (I know, I know...I really am a plant geek!!)

Most years I've used the end-of-the-year newsletters to write about exciting new plant introductions to whet your appetites for what's coming next spring. This year, I'm most excited about three new apple tree varieties, each of them significant improvements in their own way over what already exists.

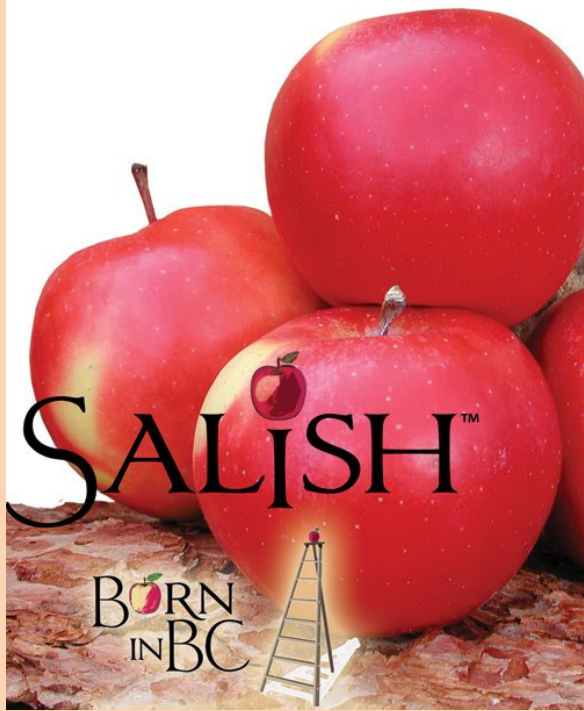
You may be aware of a new variety developed by a private company in the Okanagan that has been genetically-modified so it won't brown (oxidize) when cut. Well, that's *NOT* one of the varieties I'm excited about! *We don't need genetic modification to develop non-oxidization as a character trait!* We already have a number of excellent varieties that are very slow to oxidize including **AMBROSIA**, a newer sweet BC variety that has become extremely popular, and **HONEYCRISP**, our Number 1 seller even though it's still a relatively new introduction.

Let me introduce the **Snow Sweet** apple, a delightfully crisp apple with incredibly white flesh and a sweet-tart flavour. **Snow Sweet**, like Honeycrisp, comes out of the apple breeding



program at the University of Minnesota.

The second new variety that I have on order is the **Pink Lady**, **Maslin** cultivar. I love Pink Lady apples but our growing season in the Shuswap is too short to grow them. (I'm really enjoying the one's we're selling in our market right now, but they come from the South Okanagan.) What's so exciting about the **Maslin** cultivar is that it's a Pink Lady in every way but matures 3 to 4 weeks earlier than the standard variety. That's exciting news for a growing area like ours!



And the third new variety is a 'Born in BC, Raised in the Okanagan' apple named **SALISH**. New varieties don't come to market overnight; it's an arduous process taking many years and much evaluation. **Salish** was developed from a cross between the Gala and Splendor varieties in 1981 and is only now, 32 years later, finally becoming available in the marketplace! During the evaluation years, it was known as SPA493; you may perhaps have tried it if you ever took in any of the tasting events at the Pacific Agri Research Center (PARC) in Summerland. Read more about the process in this link: <http://www.vancouver.sun.com/Salish+made+apple+years+selecting/7412742/story.html>

JUST IN: gorgeous indoor table-top planters in several sizes priced from 18.99 for the small size, 22.99 for the medium size, and 26.99 for the large size. We also have fresh table centerpieces complete with two red taper candles at just 22.99 ea.



Large basket planter



Table centerpiece

FEATURED THIS WEEK: Dec. 12-19



All Photo Frames.....30% off



**INSTANT SNOW.....1.48 ea.
(Just add water)**

**Boxed Christmas mugs.....50% off
Scene Weaver throws.....50% off**

And many more in-store specials.

Apples available this week

- Ambrosia**
- Empire**
- Gala**
- Golden Delicious**
- Granny Smith (almost gone)**
- Honeycrisp (we got in some more!)**
- Idared (these make AWESOME PIES)**
- Jubilee Fuji**
- Pink Lady**
- Spartan**

- Pears.....Bosc & Anjou**
- Quince**

Harriet

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