



Douce de Charlevoix

Posted by [Claude Jolicoeur](#)

[Forum List](#) [Message List](#) [New Topic](#)

[Claude Jolicoeur](#)

[Douce de Charlevoix](#)

February 02, 2013 06:33AM

Registered: 11 years ago

Posts: 226

I discovered the Douce de Charlevoix apple in the village of Baie-Saint-Paul, county of Charlevoix, Quebec. It appears to be from a seedling rootstock that overgrew the grafted variety. In fact, I thought I was taking grafting wood from the grafted variety, but I didn't have much experience at the time (it was in 1984) and I took by mistake the wood from the rootstock sucker. This error was finally beneficial as this apple turned out to be an excellent cider apple with low acidity and a slight bitterness.

Douce de Charlevoix is a very handsome apple that reach about 2.5 inches / 65 mm across, it is rather conical in shape and striped orange-red on a greenish background. It is productive annually, vigorous and perfectly hardy in zone 4. Its hardiness is still unknown in colder locations. In my orchard, it gets very little scab even if I don't spray. The juice has a nice flavor with a mild bitterness. Some cider apple growers are currently testing it in different locations which should eventually permit to assess its qualities in various growing conditions. And a nursery has recently started to sell trees. This is a first class apple for early season cider. It blends nicely with the Bilodeau in particular, and gives a touch of bitterness and a mouth feel which are quite remarkable for such an early season cider.

[DouceCharlevoisienne.jpg](#)

Number of samples tested : 22

Sugar: medium, SG 1.052 (1.045 - 1.060)

Acidity: low, TA 2.9 g/l (2.2 - 4.0)

Tannin: medium, astringent juice, slightly bitter

Juice yield: high

Harvest date: early to mid September; first pressing season

Cultural notes: vigorous, excellent hardiness, no sensitivity to scab

(Extracted from my cider book to come, by end of summer 2013 at Chelsea Green Publishing)

Claude

[Jolicoeur Orchard](#)

Zone 4 in Quebec

Author, [The New Cider Maker's Handbook](#)

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 03/05/2013 06:49AM by Claude Jolicoeur.

[Reply](#) [Quote](#)

[Paul Weir](#)

[Re: Douce de Charlevoix](#)

February 05, 2013 10:43PM

Nice write up Claude. Sounds very promising.

Moderator

Registered: 11 years ago

Posts: 187

Did a quick search and didn't see any nurseries offering this one in the states. Do you know otherwise?

Claude also has a nice photo of the lovely [Douce de Charlevoix](#) apple hosted at Picasaweb.

Looking forward to the cider book you have coming out. Exciting!

Paul

[Gopher Hill Apples](#)

Zone 8 in California

[Reply](#) [Quote](#)

[Claude Jolicoeur](#)

Re: Douce de Charlevoix

February 05, 2013 11:07PM

Registered: 11 years ago

Posts: 226

I had put the picture with the post the other day, but somehow it disappeared. I don't know why.

It is Siloam Orchard in Ontario that has started to sell trees of it, and soon another nursery in Quebec should also offer it. They got some wood 2 years ago to propagate it. In the US, John Bunker is currently testing it, and FEDCO should offer it soon hopefully. Quite a few others are testing it, but they are apple growers/cider makers, and not nurserymen!

Claude

[Jolicoeur Orchard](#)

Zone 4 in Quebec

Author, [The New Cider Maker's Handbook](#)

[Reply](#) [Quote](#)

[Newer Topic](#) [Older Topic](#)

[Print View](#) [RSS](#)

Sorry, only registered users may post in this forum.

[Click here to login](#)

This [forum](#) is powered by [Phorum](#).