

# Australian scientists develop coconut-tasting pineapple

December 5 2012

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Photo illustration. Australian researchers are working on a new breed of pineapple—one that is not only sweet and juicy but which has the added tropical taste of coconut.

Australian researchers are working on a new breed of pineapple—one that is not only sweet and juicy but which has the added tropical taste of coconut.

In what is thought to be a world first, the Department of Agriculture in Queensland state is in the final stages of developing the new variety of the fruit, to be known as the AusFestival pineapple.

"Taste tests tell us that AusFestival is a winner—it has this lovely coconut flavour, which you won't find in any other pineapple in Australia," [horticulturalist](#) Garth Senewski told the ABC in comments aired Wednesday.

"It's sweet, low acid, very juicy."

Senewski said the researchers did not initially intend to create a pineapple that tasted like coconut.

"When we're doing the breeding, we're not actually looking for a coconut-flavoured pineapple or any other particular flavour," he told ABC.

"We're looking for a nice flavoured pineapple. We're looking for a variety that is sweet, low acid and aromatic."

The [Department of Agriculture](#) confirmed the development to AFP but said anyone hoping for a "pina colada" [pineapple](#) will have to wait as it will be two years before the first [trees](#) are planted commercially.

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