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Schwan Food Company to Market New Sherbet Flavor Developed by UI Food Science Student



MOSCOW, Idaho - University of Idaho junior **Clarisse Vaury** will reach a milestone this spring that few food science students can claim: Schwan's Home Service, a division of The Schwan Food Co., will market a sherbet featuring a **new pina colada flavor** she developed. The company's fleet of signature yellow trucks will carry the product to neighborhoods nationwide.

Vaury developed the new flavor while an intern at the Marshall, Minn., headquarters of Schwan - one of the largest, branded frozen-food companies in the United States. The flavor is currently available in Schwan's new summer catalog. "I had a great time. It was fun and I learned a lot," she said. "I think I was really lucky to end up at Schwan." To develop the new sherbet flavor, Vaury said, she worked directly with industrial flavoring suppliers. She proposed a list of concepts that took into account texture, color, taste and additions like marshmallows or nuts. She conducted taste tests with colleagues in Schwan's laboratories, and one flavor emerged a winner.

Now in her fifth semester at the university, Vaury is double majoring in food science and Spanish. She was named this year's outstanding undergraduate researcher by the Department of Food Science and Toxicology during the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences awards banquet April 18. Vaury began her UI studies as a pre-vet major, then decided to major in food science after a guest lecture by Professor Jeff Culbertson.

Her career goals include working for a food company that will value her fluency in three languages. That future job also will determine whether she returns to France or finds a position in favored locations such as Spain, Venezuela or the U.S. She finds many aspects of food science appealing. Vaury said that given a choice, she would probably choose a career working with ice cream, or perhaps cheese, reflecting her heritage and Normandy's fame for its apples and its dairy products. "Anything that is dairy, I think I would enjoy."

Moscow and the campus provide plenty of cultural activities to supplement her focus on school and maintaining her 4.0 grade point average. The beauty of the northern Idaho countryside reminds her of her native Normandy. She also enjoys the university. "I like it a lot. I like how it goes. I like what I am learning. I like the teachers. I think the educational system is just easier and smoother than in France, and that's nice - through experience." "Here you have the opportunity to do whatever you want to," she said. "If you want to do something, and if you really want to do it, you'll make it. In France, you might dream of something, but it might never happen."

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