

# Apple harvesting is taken into active phase

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Giorgi Khojevanishvili,-Governor in Shida kartli and Giorgi Khanishvili,- Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection, personally got familiar to the effective realization abilities of apple harvesting in Shida Kartli. They visited Ltd "Khilari,- fruit processing plant which is equipped with modern standards and is created in the village of Shavshvebi of the Gori Municipality, within "The United Agricultural Project" of Agricultural Project Management Agency. In the frames of preferential agro-credit, the enterprise has used GEL 185 000. 15 000 tones of apple are processed in the plant every year and 55 locals are employed during the season. The production is exported in Germany apart from the local market. The plant has already got 5 000 tones of fruit this season and it is planning to apply 10 000 tones as well which will significantly promote the locals to realize the harvest.

One more plant "Bio juice",-created within "The United Agricultural Project", will work in the village of Kvarkheti in the Gori Municipality, in which around GEL 1 500 000 in total was implemented. The enterprise received a grant of GEL 600 000 and it also got GEL 710 000 of referential agro credit. The mentioned enterprise was opened by Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection together with the Director of The Project Management Agency,- Revaz Asatiani and Giorgi Khojevanishvili,-Governor in Shida Kartli and got familiar to the process of apple applying. Realization of the product will be at the local market. It is also planned to export the processed product. The plant has already received 35 tones of apple this year and it is going to receive 265 tones of this fruit. 20 locals are employed at the plant during the season. The international standard of food safety -ISO 22:000 was introduced at the company by supporting of Agricultural Project Management Agency. Establishing of 180 enterprises have been funded with the supporting of the state within "The United Agricultural Project" since 2013 up today. More than 880 enterprises have been equipped by supporting of the state too. About 40 plants are processing type where farmers can sell apples.