CLAIMS

1. A beverage comprising: (i) a sweetener selected from rebaudioside M and sucrose; (ii) about 1 ppm to about 24 ppm of siamenoside I; and (iii) a beverage matrix comprising citric acid or phosphoric acid; and

   wherein the sweetener is rebaudioside M and the amount of rebaudioside M in the beverage is from about 200 ppm to about 500 ppm; or

   wherein the sweetener is sucrose and the beverage contains from about 8% to about 14% sucrose by weight.

2. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the rebaudioside M is provided as a steviol glycoside mixture comprising at least 80% rebaudioside M by weight.

3. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage is a carbonated soft drink.

4. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage is a zero-calorie beverage that has less than 5 calories per 8 ounce serving.

5. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage is a low-calorie beverage that has up to 40 calories per 8 ounce serving.

6. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage is a carbonated beverage.

7. The beverage of claim 6, wherein the carbonated beverage is selected from the group consisting of frozen carbonated beverages, enhanced sparkling beverages, cola, fruit-flavored sparkling beverages, ginger-ale, soft drinks and root beer.

8. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage is non-carbonated.

9. The beverage of claim 8, wherein the beverage is selected from the group consisting of fruit juice, fruit-flavored juice, juice drinks, nectars, vegetable juice, vegetable-flavored juice, sports drinks, energy drinks, enhanced water drinks, enhanced water with vitamins, near water drinks, coconut water, tea type drinks, coffee, cocoa drink, beverage containing milk components, beverages containing cereal extracts and smoothies.

10. The beverage of any of claim 1-9, wherein the beverage has one or more reduced negative flavor attributes compared to a corresponding beverage without (ii); wherein the one or more reduced negative flavor attributes are selected from reduced bitterness,

reduced astringency, reduced licorice notes, reduced sweetness linger, reduced bitterness linger, reduced bitterness aftertaste, reduced metallic aftertaste, and reduced chemical aftertaste.

11. The beverage of any of claims 1-9, wherein the beverage has a more rounded flavor compared to a corresponding beverage without (ii).

12. A method of preparing a beverage of claim 1, comprising mixing a beverage syrup with a diluting quantity of water, wherein the beverage syrup comprises (i) a sweetener selected from rebaudioside M and sucrose and (ii) siamenoside I.

13. A method of preparing a beverage of claim 1, comprising dissolving (i) rebaudioside M or sucrose and (ii) siamenoside I in (iii) a beverage matrix.

14. A method of reducing one or more negative flavor attributes of a beverage sweetened with either rebaudioside M or sucrose comprising adding about 1 ppm to about 24 ppm siamenoside I to said beverage, wherein addition of siamenoside I improves one or more flavor attributes of the beverage compared to a corresponding beverage without siamenoside I;

wherein the one or more reduced negative flavor attributes are selected from reduced bitterness, reduced astringency, reduced licorice notes, reduced sweetness linger, reduced bitterness linger, reduced bitterness aftertaste, reduced metallic aftertaste, and reduced chemical aftertaste; and

wherein the sweetener is rebaudioside M and the amount of rebaudioside M in the beverage is from about 200 ppm to about 500 ppm; or

wherein the sweetener is sucrose and the beverage contains from about 8% to about 14% sucrose by weight.

15. A method of providing a more rounded flavor to a beverage sweetened with either rebaudioside M or sucrose comprising adding about 1 ppm to about 24 ppm siamenoside I to said beverage.

16. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage comprises rebaudioside M in a concentration from about 250 ppm to about 500 ppm and siamenoside I in a concentration from about 15 ppm to about 24 ppm.

17. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the beverage comprises about 8% to about 10% sucrose by weight and siamenoside I in a concentration from about 15 ppm to about 24 ppm.

18. The beverage of claim 1, wherein the siamenoside I is provided a mixture that comprises siamenoside in an amount greater than about 95%.