Building Gardens, Growing Gardeners

Here is our yearly Recipe Issue! Please take the opportunity to try out the recipes and remember to continue weeding, watering and eating those veggies!

> Happy Gardening, Jodi, Kate and Cindy

Radish Greens Soup (serves 6)

(Adapted from www.foodandwine.com)

Be sure to pick bunches of radishes with very fresh-looking leaves for this earthy, slightly bitter soup.

Ingredients

6 tablespoons unsalted butter

12 cups radish greens (from 4 large bunches of radishes), coarsely chopped

1/2 pound scallions, white and tender green, cut into 1-inch lengths

4 1/2 cups water

Salt and freshly ground white pepper

Directions

- 1. In a large saucepan, melt 3 tablespoons of the butter over moderately high heat. Add the radish greens and scallions and cook, stirring occasionally, until wilted, about 4 minutes. Add the water, bring to a boil and simmer until the vegetables are tender, about 10 minutes. Let cool slightly. Puree the soup in batches in a blender, about 2 minutes per batch.
- 2. Gently reheat the soup in a clean saucepan. Swirl in the remaining 3 tablespoons of butter and season with salt and white pepper. Serve in shallow soup plates, garnished with the croutons.

Summer Farm-Stand Salad (Serves 4 as main dish, 8 as a side)

(Adapted from *The New England Cookbook* by Brooke Dojny (Harvard Common Press, 1999)

Ingredients

1 pound each of 2 or 3 of the following: broccoli florets, asparagus, eggplant (sliced 1/2-inch thick), green or yellow summer squash (cut diagonally 1/2-inch thick), bell peppers (seeded and cut in 3/4-inch wide strips), sweet onions (cut in chunks)

2 tablespoons olive oil

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 pound red- or white-skinned new potatoes, cut in 3/4-inch chunks

2 tablespoons white wine or vermouth

3/4 cup vinaigrette (see below)

1 pound ripe tomatoes, sliced

1/2 cup chopped fresh herbs (parsley, chives, basil, tarragon, and/or dill

Nasturtium blossoms, optional

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
- 2. Place the vegetables (except the potatoes and tomatoes) on 2 large rimmed baking sheets, brush or drizzle them with the oil, and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast, uncovered, stirring with a spatula once or twice, until the vegetables are softened and tinged with dark brown on the edges, 20 to 35 minutes. Cool the vegetables to room temperature.
- 3. Cook the potatoes in a large pot of salted boiling water until tender, about 15 minutes. Drain, transfer to a bowl, and sprinkle with the wine. Let stand for 10 minutes. Pour about 1/4 cup of vinaigrette over the potatoes and toss to combine.

Vinaigrette for Salad

(Adapted from *The New England Cookbook* by Brooke Dojny (Harvard Common Press, 1999)

Ingredients:

- 3-4 tablespoons good red or white wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh-ground black pepper
- 1 1/2 tablespoons minced shallots
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil

Whisk all ingredients together.

Salsa Fresca

(Adapted from Culinary Café)

Ingredients:

- 4 medium tomatoes, cored, seeded, and finely diced
- 1/4 red onion, minced
- 2 jalapeno chiles, stemmed, seeded and minced
- 1 bunch cilantro, leaves only chopped
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 3/4 teaspoon salt

Pinch of freshly ground black pepper

In a mixing bowl combine all the ingredients. Stir and toss well. Serve. Store in a covered container in the refrigerator no more than 1 day.

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Ratatouille (serves 4)

(Adapted from mediterrasian.com)

Ratatouille is a hearty mixture of tomatoes, onions, zucchini, eggplant, and red and green bell peppers that is cooked with olive oil, thyme and garlic to create a sweet and chunky Provencal vegetable stew.

Ingredients:

- 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 3 tomatoes roughly chopped
- 2 red onions halved, thinly sliced and separated into rings.
- 2 zucchini sliced into ½-inch rounds
- 1 eggplant roughly chopped
- 1 red pepper roughly chopped
- 1 green pepper roughly chopped
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 3/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 3 cloves garlic finely chopped
- 3/4 teaspoon dried thyme

Directions:

HEAT the oil in a large saucepan over a medium heat. ADD all ingredients, except the garlic and thyme, and cook, uncovered, for 25 minutes, stirring every 5 minutes. ADD the garlic and thyme and cook, uncovered, for a further 20 minutes, stirring every 5 minutes, until the vegetables are very soft.

