

Rhonda's Famous Spicy Mango Chutney

Created by Rhonda Wise, 1994, Northern Territory

Notes: All weights are after peeling and removal of seeds.

Yield: Approximately ten 375g jars.

Preparation time: 30 minutes

Cooking time: 1.5 hours

Equipment

Stove

Preserving pan (Large pot with lid - minimum 4.8 litre)

Chopping board

Cooks knife (or any knife for chopping)

Kitchen scales

Cup measurers

Liquid measuring jug

Wooden (or plastic) stirring spoon

Ingredients

500 grams of ripe Turpentine mangoes, cut into 1cm cubes.¹

1.5 Kg of ripe eating mangoes, cut into 1cm cubes.²

500 grams of *just* ripe eating mangoes, cut into 1cm cubes.³

350 ml white vinegar

350 ml malt vinegar⁴

250 grams raisins, coarsely chopped

125 grams pitted dates, coarsely chopped

65 grams ginger, grated⁵

¼ cup birds eye chilli with seeds in, chopped

6 long red chillies, sliced lengthwise with seeds removed⁶

250 grams Granny Smith apples, peeled and cored, cut into 1cm cubes

250 grams brown onion, chopped coarsely

375 grams white sugar

375 grams brown sugar⁷

Salt to taste⁸

Ingredients Notes

1 – Turpentine, or any stringy variety of mango. If you can't get Turpentine mangoes, it is ok to use Bowen or KP (Kensington Pride) mangoes but it's a better chutney if you have a few stringy mangoes in the chutney as it holds together much better and isn't so runny.

2 – Kensington Pride or Bowen mangoes

3 – To be added to cooking half an hour before you finish the cooking. This is a presentation trick for the cooking competitions, so that squares of light coloured mango can be clearly seen in the darker coloured chutney. They *must* be cooked for at least 30 minutes to ensure they are fully cooked and don't cause fermentation when bottled.

4 – Do not use brown vinegar as it has too much acid.

5 – Peeled and grated fresh ginger, if not available, bottled crushed ginger is acceptable.

6 – To be placed in the cooking chutney 30 minutes before finished cooking. When bottling, the chillies should be pushed to the outside of the jar for presentation.

7 – Don't use dark brown sugar as it makes the colour of the chutney too dark and it doesn't look as appetizing.

8 – Don't use too much salt as the flavour of the chutney gets smoother with maturity.

Method

Step 1

Add all the ingredients except the mangoes into a large preserving pan, put the lid on as you want to keep the steam in the boiler for the liquid at this stage. Bring to the boil and then reduce to a simmer for approximately 20 minutes to half an hour to soften the apples etc. Stir occasionally to make sure all the sugar has dissolved.

Step 2

Add 2 kg only of the ripe chopped mangoes and simmer on low heat with **the lid off from now on** as you need some of the liquid to evaporate to help the chutney get thicker, stirring approximately every 5 minutes to prevent it from catching at the bottom of the boiler, until thickened. This should take about a further 1 hour perhaps a little longer depending on the type of stove you are using.

You have to cook it slowly, so be patient and stir regularly otherwise it will stick as the chutney has a high sugar content with all the fruits and sugars.

Step 3

Add salt to taste.

Add the last ½ kg of just ripe Bowen or KP mangoes and the 6 sliced long red chillies and cook for a further 30 minutes on low heat, stirring regularly to prevent sticking.

Step 4

Make sure the last of the mangoes added are fully cooked before bottling, otherwise you may experience fermentation and growth on top of the chutney when opening a jar later.

Bottle immediately and put tops on the jars while the chutney is still hot, making sure that some of the long chillies and still yellow mango cubes show on the outside of the jar for decorative presentation.

Additional notes

Will keep for 12 months unrefrigerated.

Once opened refrigerate and use within 14 days.

The chutney gets more mellow with age and it will lose some of its bite for the chilli.

Be sure to label your finished chutney with the date of manufacture.

Ensure the jars are thoroughly washed and dried before bottling.

Awards won

1994 First prize, Royal North Australian Show Society (Inc) – Royal Darwin Show

1995 First prize, Royal Darwin Show

1998 Second prize, Royal Darwin Show

1999 Third prize, Fred's Pass Rural Show

2002 First prize, Royal Darwin Show

2004 First prize, Fred's Pass Rural Show