Making marmalade: A sweet way to preserve pandemic memories a steady simmer and cook,

By Genevieve Ko Los Angeles Times

Some people keep quarantine journals. I'm preserving my memories of this time with, well, preserves. This year, the sometimes overwhelming abundance of citrus that fills the trees in Southern California feels like a lifesaver.

Marmalades take longer to make than most jams because you need to boil the citrus skins into tenderness and boil away the bitterness of their pith. Once the sugar goes in, the mix needs to cook again to infuse the peel with sweetness and thicken the syrup into something spreadable. It takes a few hours - which is a good thing when trying to pass the time at home on a weekend.

And the results are as delicious spooned on toast as they are over grilled pork or chicken.

CITRUS MARMALADE

Time: 2 hours 30 minutes, plus cooling Makes 6 (half-pint) jars

Tangy and loaded with candied peel, this marmalade is as delicious on toast as it is over grilled pork. The tastier

ROSES

Continued from Page 1B Our native wild roses are pink. We have several locally. • Rose gymnocarpa — the bald hip rose • Rose nutcana — the



Citrus marmalade on toast.

the fruit, the better the marmalade, so use citrus you like eating fresh. Stick with one or mix and match whatever you find.

- 21/4 pounds sweet citrus, such as oranges, clementines, mandarins or a combination 1 large lemon
- 5 cups granulated sugar

1. Place the sweet citrus

Nootka rose

• Rosa woodsii — woods or woodland rose grows east of the Cascades

• Rosa pisocarpa — swamp rose or cluster rose grows west of the Cascades. It has small, straight thorns.

• Rose rubiginosa or Rosa eglanteria - the sweetbrier rose, has apple-scented foliage, pink, five-petaled flowers and small thorns. It is not a native but grows well here. Its foliage can scent your whole yard of

an evening.

and lemon in a colander. If

they have wax on them, turn

your kitchen tap to the hottest

setting and run the hot water

over them while shaking the

colander. Whether waxed or

unwaxed, run cool water over

with a vegetable brush. Drain

well, then trim and discard the

stem ends of the sweet citrus;

sweet citrus, including the pith

reserve the lemon. Cut the

the citrus while scrubbing them

and peel, into a 1/4-inch dice, discarding any seeds. Transfer the cut fruit and any accumulated juices to a large saucepan.

2. Using a Microplane grater, zest the lemon directly over the cut fruit. Squeeze the juice from the lemon and add to the saucepan. Add enough water to cover the fruit, about 6 cups, then bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce the heat to medium-low to maintain

• Rose canina — dog rose. It has hooked thorns and unscented foliage. This is also not a native but grows well here. The non-natives can become invasive. In most cases natives have straight thorns and nonnative thorns are curved.

The simplicity of a wild rose's flat, 5-petaled flowers adds a sweet innocence to your yard. Not to mention the thicket formed by the bush becomes a fortress to protect birds and their nests from predators.

stirring occasionally, until the

fruit peel is very soft, 40 to 45

wide pot of water to a boil.

Using tongs, carefully lower

6 (half-pint) canning jars into

the boiling water. Immerse the

ladle or spoon you're going to

use for filling the jars too. Boil

for 10 minutes, then drop in the

jars' lids and remove from the

heat. Keep everything in the

hot water until ready to use.

4. Raise the heat under the

fruit to bring the mixture back

to a rapid boil. Clip in a candy

thermometer if you have one.

If not, put a large metal spoon

in the freezer. Add the sugar

and stir carefully to evenly

incorporate it. Continue boil-

ing and stirring often until the

mixture reaches 220 degrees

F for a runnier marmalade or

223 degrees F for a stiffer one,

doneness without a thermom-

25 to 30 minutes. To test its

eter, drop a dollop onto the

spoon from the freezer. Let

it sit for 15 seconds, then tilt

the spoon. That will be the

consistency of the finished

product. A stiff marmalade

hot water to a clean kitchen

towel on the counter. Shake

will move like lava.

won't budge and a looser one

5. Transfer the jars from the

3. Meanwhile, bring a large,

minutes.

out any water inside, then divide the marmalade among the jars with the sterilized ladle, filling them to 1/2 inch from the top. If any spills onto the threads, dip a clean paper towel into the hot water and wipe off any stickiness. Screw on the lids until just tight.

6. If you have a jar rack or other metal rack that fits in the pot, center it in the hot water. Otherwise, push a clean kitchen towel against the bottom of the pot. Bring the water back to a boil, then carefully lower in the filled jars with canning clamps or tongs, making sure they don't touch each other. The water should be at least an inch above the jars. If not, add more.

7. Boil for 10 minutes, then remove from the heat. Using the clamps or tongs, carefully transfer the jars back to the kitchen towel on the counter. Let stand for at least a day before opening. When the jars are room temperature, label with the date and the types of fruits you used. As the jars continue to cool, you should hear the lids pop. If any don't, that means they didn't seal properly and won't be shelfstable, so transfer those jars to the refrigerator after they've cooled to room temperature and eat within four months.

Wild roses are tolerant of partial shade or full sun, drought to some extend, and most kinds of soil - even clay.

If you have garden questions or comments, please write to greengardencolumn@ yahoo.com. Thanks for reading!

BAD FOOTBALL

Continued from Page 1B Astonishingly, Oregon State went more than a quarter-century without a winning season, from 1971 through 1998.

Oregon had plenty of struggles, too. The Ducks had a couple of winning seasons early in Rich Brooks'

the money to send me to Eugene to see two lousy teams.

Brooks told me after a 1-2 start in 1994 that he wouldn't be surprised if he was fired. The Ducks had just lost at home to Utah 34-16 and Brooks heard the boos echoing through half-empty Autzen Stadium. But the Ducks won eight of their next nine games to win the

I was so happy for those long-suffering Beaver faithful when Dennis Erickson brought Oregon State to the 2001 Fiesta Bowl and trounced Notre Dame 41-9.

In 1998, I transferred to Phoenix and a year later found myself covering the NFL Cardinals.

The Chicago Cardinals were charter members of the NFL. They moved first to St. Louis, then in 1988, to Arizona, where the franchise toiled mightily to even achieve mediocrity. Over a 20-year span, the Cardinals had one winning season. That was 1998, when quarterback Jake Plummer led them to a 9-7 season. They even won a playoff game at Dallas before getting routed by Minnesota.

seasons.

Owner Bill Bidwill had a handshake deal for a new stadium when he moved the team to Arizona in 1988. But that plan never reached reality. The Cardinals, often in scorching heat, played at Sun Devil Stadium, where a smattering of fans watched from metal bleachers.

Dennis Green was the first coach

Arizona won the NFC West with a 9-7 record in 2007, then mounted an improbable run to its one and only Super Bowl (losing a thriller to the Steelers).

Bruce Arians, a delightful man with a colorful vocabulary, won a franchise-record 50 games in his five seasons as coach before retiring (only to come back in Tampa Bay).

Genevive Ko / Los Angeles Times-TNS

tenure but the program slid back. Brooks was a terse guy but we got

along pretty well. At the Hayward Banquet of Champions one year, I introduced him to my fiance (now wife).

Without a blink, he told her, "You have my deepest sympathy."

One day I'm sure Brooks would like to forget was Nov. 19, 1983. His Ducks and Oregon State slugged out a 0-0 tie, an outcome that epitomized the two programs' struggles.

Alas, I wasn't there. My skinflint bureau chief didn't want to spend

Pac-10 and earn their first trip to the Rose Bowl since 1958.

Oregon State brought in coach Joe Avezzano, who spent six seasons trying to and failing to succeed with the wishbone. With few passes thrown, at least the games were quick.

That wasn't the case for Avezzano's successor, Dave Kragthorpe, who liked to have his teams throw the ball all over the field. Sadly, the results were often a 40-something to 20-something loss as faithful fans huddled in a cold rain.

I took over coverage of the team in 1999. My bosses said it was an "up-and-coming" franchise. The team stadium and the money it brought followed with eight straight losing

in the new stadium, but his teams were still losers.

His time in Arizona is most remembered for a Monday night game against Chicago, when the Cardinals blew a big lead and lost.

At his post-game news conference he pounded the podium and shouted "They are what we thought they were and we let them off the hook."

You can find it on You Tube. Well, the Cardinals got better, thanks in large part to the new in. Under coach Ken Whisenhunt,

But in came Steve Wilks for one season, and Arizona went a leagueworst 3-13 in 2018.

I was back in my wheelhouse, covering a losing team in my final season on the job. It was a fitting way to say goodbye.

Bob Baum retired last year after 43 years with The Associated Press, 23 in Portland and the last 20 as senior sports writer based in Phoenix, Arizona. He lives in Island City with his wife, Leah, their four cats and two dogs.

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