Recipes for sweet and sour ham-burgers, hot fudge sundaes and Rice-a-Roni vegetables

by SARA SEWELL

Sweet and Sour Ham-burgers

1 can (12 oz.) pork lencheon meat
¼ pound process or cheddar cheese
½ cup quick-cooking rolled oats
1 egg, slightly beaten
1 Tablespoon fat
1 Tablespoon brown sugar
1 Tablespoon cornstarch
¼ teaspoon ginger
1 cup water
1 (14 oz.) can pineapple chunks
1 Tablespoon vinegar

Put luncheon meat and cheese through food chopper, using the coarse knife. Combine ground meat-cheese mixture, rolled oats and egg in medium-size bowl, blending with a fork. Form mixture into 8 large balls; place in shallow baking pan. Bake in hot oven (400 degrees) 20 minutes or until brown and crusty (may be fried instead). While meat balls brown, heat fat in medium size sauce pan, blend in brown sugar, cornstarch, ginger, gradually stir in water, pineapple with syrup and vinegar. Cook, stirring constantly, until sauce thickens and boils 1 minute. Remove meat balls from oven, drain fat from pan. Spoon sauce over and around meat balls, return to oven and bake 10 minutes to blend flavors. Serves 4. From the files of Joan Watts, Vancouver, B.C.

Rice-a-Roni a la Vegetables

1 package chicken rice-a-roni. Prepare by package directions. Mix in 2 jars marinated artichoke hearts, 2 jars marinated mushrooms, drained, 1 can small black olives, drained, ½ cup mayonnaise, ½ tesapoon curry powder, ½ cup sliced green onions. Bake 15-20 minutes at 325 degrees or serve cold. Serves 8-10. Very good. From the files of Edith Packard, Astoria.

Hot Fudge Sundae Dessert

Make chocolate sauce first:
1 (16 oz.) chocolate syrup
1 can sweetened condensed milk
1 stick margarine

Melt and bring to boil, simmer 5 minutes. Take off stove, add 1 teaspoon vanilla and let cool. Take ½ gallon vanilla ice cream out of freezer to soften.

First Layer: crush 24 chocolate cookies. Mix ¼ cup melted margarine into cookie crumbs. Press into 9 x 13 inch pan. Freeze 30 minutes.

Second Layer: Spread the ice cream over cookie layer. Freeze 30 minutes.

Third Layer: Spread cooled chocolate sauce over ice cream.

Old evergreens show age in fall

Despite their name, needle-bearing evergreen trees and shrubs don't stay completely green forever. Just like any other living thing, evergreens age and after a while the aging begins to show.

"Evergreens are supposed to stay green all year around, and most of the time they do, but in the fall some of the older evergreen plants show a little browning," said Ray McNeilan, Oregon State University extension home gardening agent.

The browning is caused by needle dieback and is accompanied by dropping of some of the plant's older needles. This foliage is usually located in the inner part of the plant.

The dieback of older foliage on evergreens is normal, according to McNeilan. However, if foliage at the tip of new plant growth becomes brown and drops, a disease problem might be the cause.

"The needle drop observed on fir, pine and spruce trees is generally a sign of the tree aging," McNeilan explains. "How old a tree must be before it begins shedding needles varies, but all needle-bearing trees and shrubs eventually start deopping a few needles each year."

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