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Using and Storing Grains Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service Mona Ellard, Eaton County Home Economist; Virginia Messina, Foods and Nutrition Issued August 1985 2 pages

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USING & STORING

GRAINS

Corn Meal — Rice — Oats — Barley — Rye. Grains, when mixed with legumes or dairy products, help stretch the family food budget by providing a low cost source of protein. Grains also provide fiber, B vitamins and iron.

How to Store Grains

Store all grains in airtight containers. Barley and rice can be stored at room temperature.

Cooler temperatures are recommended for corn meal and oats. Rye will keep best with refrigerator storage.

For best quality, use corn meal, rye and oats within 6 months. Rice and barley will keep up to one year.

How to Use Grains

Grains can be used in many ways:

- to make delicious breads and baked goods
- as a hot cereal on a cold morning
- as an addition to soups, salads, casseroles or desserts
- served with beans, dairy products or meat to complement protein.

Cooking Grains

To cook grains, add the grain to cold water. Bring to a boil. Simmer, covered, until all water is absorbed.

Cooking Times and Yields

1 cup raw	Plus this much water	Yields this much cooked grain	Cooking time
Barley	3 cups	4 cups	12 min.
White Rice	2 cups	3 cups	20 min.
Brown Rice	2 cups	3 cups .	40 min.
Rolled Oats	21/2 cups	31/2 cups	20 min.
For variety, try these grains too:			
Bulgur	2 cups	3 cups	20 min.
Millet	3 cups	4 cups	45 min.
Buckwheat Groats (Kasha)	2 cups	3 cups	15 min.

Spicy Lentils with Tomato Sauce

1 cup dried lentils 3 cups water 1 bay leaf

- 3 parsley sprigs (optional)
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 tablespoons shortening
- 1 cup cooked rice
- 1/4 teaspoon ground mace
- salt and pepper
- 1-1/2 cups well-seasoned tomato sauce

Wash lentils and soak in water overnight; do not drain. Add bay leaf and parsley. Cook until tender, about 1 hour. Brown onion in shortening; add lentils, rice, mace, and salt and pepper to taste. Heat thoroughly. Serve with sauce.

Serves 4.

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Barley-Cheddar Casserole

3 cups water
1 cup quick-cook pearl barley
4 tablespoons chopped onion
2 tablespoons margarine
1 cup mushroom stems and pieces (canned)
2 cups stewed tomatoes, drained
1/2 pound sharp cheddar cheese

Bring 3 cups of water to a **boil. Stir** in barley. **Cover; simmer** 10 to 12 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally. **Drain. Saute** the onion in margarine. **Place** barley, mushrooms, stewed tomatoes and onion in a small casserole dish. **Grate** cheese. **Mix** half of the cheese with the barley mixture and sprinkle the rest of the cheese over the top. **Bake** at 350°F. until cheese is melted, about 10 to 15 minutes.

Serves 4.

New England Johnny Cake

3/4 cup sugar
2 eggs, beaten
3/4 teaspoon salt
2 cups flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 cup yellow commeal
1/4 cup melted margarine or oil
1-1/2 cups milk

Prepared by **Mona Ellard**, Eaton County Extension Home Economist, and **Virginia Messina**, Extension Food and Nutrition Specialist, MSU.

Oatmeal-Apple Muffins

1-1/4 cups milk
2 tablespoons margarine
3/4 cup quick-cooking oats (uncooked)
1 egg, beaten
1-1/2 cups sifted enriched flour
4 tablespoons sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
4 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 apple

Scald milk. Add margarine and pour mixture over oats. Combine egg, flour, 2 tablespoons sugar, salt and baking powder. Add to oat mixture, stirring only enough to moisten. Fill 12 greased muffin pans 2/3 full. Combine 2 tablespoons sugar and cinnamon. Peel, core and quarter apple. Cut into thirds and dip each slice in sugar mixture. Press, curved side up, into each muffin. Bake at 400°F. for 20 to 25 minutes.

Makes 12 muffins.

Mix sugar with beaten eggs. Sift flour, cornmeal, baking powder and salt together. Add melted margarine or oil, egg mixture and milk. Beat. Pour into a well-oiled rectangular pan and bake for 25 minutes in a 375°F. oven.

Makes about 12 servings.

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