VEGETABLE PULAO



Season: Diwali or Spring

From the garden: Onion, garlic, carrots, broad beans, cauliflower or broccoli

Type: Main Difficulty: Easy

Serves: 4 adults or 30 tastes

Source: Sarah James, Owairaka District School, adapted from 'Phadu's Kitchen'

Equipment

Chopping board

Knives – chef knives

Mixing bowl

Medium to large pot with lid

Sieve

Wooden spoon or spatula

Serving bowls

Serving spoons

Ingredients

- 1 cup Basmati rice
- 1 cup split red lentils (masoor dal)
- 2 tablespoons ghee, butter, or vegetable oil
- 1 onion
- 1-2 carrots
- % head of cauliflower or broccoli
- 2 cm piece of fresh ginger
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1 teaspoon garam masala
- 1 tablespoon tomato purée
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup peeled broad beans2 1/2 cups warm water
- 1 small bunch coriander

How to make it

- 1. Put the lentils and rice in a sieve and wash well under running water until the water runs clear. At the same time, check for and remove any small stones or other foreign bodies.
- 2. Slice the carrots, onion, and cauliflower or broccoli florets into small bite-sized pieces.
- 3. Peel and finely chop the ginger and garlic.
- 4. Heat a medium to large pot on medium heat. Add the ghee or oil, onion, garlic, ginger, salt, and spices. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- 5. Add the sliced vegetables and peeled broad beans and stir to coat the vegetables with spice mixture.
- 6. Add the rice, lentils, and warm water. Stir to combine.

- 7. Place a lid on the pot and cook for 20 minutes, or until the water has nearly all been absorbed by the rice and lentils. Check and stir occasionally; if the rice is sticking to the bottom of the pot add a little extra water. Let sit for 5 minutes off the heat where it will continue cooking.
- 8. Chop the coriander.
- 9. Transfer the vegetable pulao into bowls for serving. Garnish each bowl with the coriander.

Notes:

• You can make fresh garam masala powder by toasting whole spices and grinding them with a spice grinder or mortar and pestle:

http://www.spiceupthecurry.com/garam-masala-recipe/

Otherwise garam masala can be bought ready-made.