

## Try Rhubarb Shortcake



Rhubarb gingerbread shortcake . . . spring treat

By Cecily Brownstone  
Associated Press Food Editor

Your family and guests have a treat in store for them if you try a new kind of shortcake — this luscious rhubarb-gingerbread creation. The cake base has a delightful flavor that comes from old-fashioned mild molasses and just the right blend of spices. The rhubarb filling also is sweetened with molasses and has a surprise ingredient — quick-cooking tapioca. The tapioca thickens the filling a bit and gives it interesting texture.

One word of warning about the rhubarb filling — keep heat low, watch carefully, and don't stir the rhubarb once it begins to soften if you want it to keep its shape. If you prefer rhubarb sauce to having the rhubarb in pieces, just stir it well once it's soft; when it cools it will be thick enough to spoon between the layers of spicy gingerbread.

In buying rhubarb for the shortcake, choose stalks that are fresh, firm, thick, and of good color. Usually, well-colored rhubarb is well flavored. Do not peel; the skin helps to give the cooked rhubarb attractive color and to hold the pieces together. Rhubarb is sold either in bunches or by the pound. Rhubarb is delicious teamed with strawberries, pineapple, orange sections, and sliced bananas. When you want to use it in a fruit compote be sure that, in cooking, the pieces stay whole.

**Rhubarb Gingerbread Shortcake**  
Ingredients: 2 1/3 cups sifted flour, 2 teaspoons baking soda, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 3/4 teaspoon ginger, 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg, 1/2 teaspoon cloves, 3/4 cup brown sugar (firmly packed), 3/4 cup shortening, 3/4 cup old-fashioned mild molasses, 1 cup buttermilk, 2 eggs, rhubarb filling, 1 cup heavy cream (whipped and sweetened).

Method: Into large mixing bowl sift flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and cloves; mix in sugar well. Melt shortening in small saucepan; stir in molasses, then buttermilk. In small bowl beat eggs until foamy; stir in molasses mixture. Now gradually stir molasses-egg mixture into flour mixture. Beat until smooth, about 1/2 minute. Turn into 2 well-greased lightly floured 9x9x2-inch pans. Bake in moderate (375F.) oven 25 minutes or until cake tester comes out clean. Turn out on wire rack to cool. Put to-

gether shortcake fashion with rhubarb filling and whipped cream. Makes 9 servings.

**Rhubarb Filling**  
Ingredients: 1 1/2 to 2 pounds rhubarb, 2 tablespoons quick-cooking tapioca, 3/4 teaspoon salt, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/4 cup old-fashioned mild molasses.

Method: Cut leaves and root ends from rhubarb. Wash but do not peel. With sharp knife cut stalks into 1 1/2-inch lengths to make 4 cups. In top of double boiler mix tapioca, salt, sugar, molasses, and rhubarb together. Place over very hot (but not boiling) water; have water in lower part of double boiler just touching bottom of upper part; cover tightly. Cook, stirring several times before rhubarb softens. Keep covered and cook without stirring until tapioca is transparent — this may take as long as 1 1/2 hours. (With spatula scrape down sauce from sides of pan a few times). Remove from hot water. Chill in pan. Use as fill-

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## Veterans Not Collecting Cash NSLI Dividends to Get Credit

Veterans who do not request their 1952 National Service Life Insurance dividend in cash before it is due will be notified by the Veterans administration of the dividend amount placed on deposit to their credit, says E. C. Elliott, officer in charge of the New Bern VA office.

VA said dividend notices will be mailed to such veterans after the 1952 dividend is payable. The first notices are scheduled to be mailed soon. The notice will advise the policyholder that if the dividend credit is not applied in payment of premiums becoming due and not otherwise paid, or is disposed of in full at the insured's request within three months from the anniversary date, it will earn interest, says Elliott.

The authority for this procedure is Public Law 36, 82nd Congress. This law provides that on and after Jan. 1, 1952, dividends on NSLI shall be applied in payment of premiums becoming due and not otherwise paid unless the insured has requested payment of the dividend in cash.

VA has begun to mail 1952 dividend checks to policyholders who have made requests in writing for cash payments. Approximately 5,000,000 policyholders are eligible for the \$200,000,000 dividend.

Policyholders who desire dividends paid in cash and have not yet so requested should write the

VA office to which they are paying premiums, giving their full name, insurance policy numbers and the address to which they wish the dividend payment sent. The New Bern VA office will assist veterans with these letters if they will call at the office, Room 211, Post Office building, New Bern, N. C., from 8 a.m. until 4:45 p.m., each weekday except Saturdays. The Carteret county veterans' service officer is located in the Legion hut, Turner st., Beaufort.

## Guerilla Warfare Gains Impetus in Southeast Asia

Kuala Lumpur, Malaya (AP) — Communism has shifted its attention to Southeast Asia to prejudice the western powers, and Communist guerrilla warfare in Malaya is expected to increase as a result, Malaya's new high commissioner, Gen. Sir Gerald Templer, warns.

The Red terrorists will moreover have a temporary advantage in the war because many police jungle squads are being withdrawn for further training, he said. British troops are to replace them during the period.

Gen. Templer has said he could beat the terrorists in three months provided the entire Malayan population was behind him.

Experiments indicate that a hive of bees can gain as much as 40 pounds in a day through storage of honey and pollen and growth of the bees in the hive.

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## Home Hints

By Ruth Current  
State Home Demonstration Agent

For success in canning low-acid vegetables and meats, you need to have your pressure canner in good working order. Two important points to check before each canning session are: First, test the canner to see that no steam, or very little, leaks out where cover and kettle join. If too much leaks out, you may not be able to maintain the pressure needed and the canner may boil dry and be ruined. Second, check the dial face gauge to find out if it accurately registers the pressure inside the canner. If the gauge is five pounds or more off, you need a new one.

To prevent food spoilage, not only must jars be sealed air-tight but in addition the whole canning process must be conducted under the most sanitary conditions. Cleanliness is absolutely essential. All jars and their tops should be washed in hot, soapy water, rinsed with hot water, and turned upside down

on a clean towel or kept in hot water until it is time to fill them.

Care must be taken to avoid scalds and burns when canning. Handle hot jars with dry towels; use holders when handling hot kettles; avoid spilling or splashing hot water, hot food, and hot liquids in general; turn handles of cooking utensils away from the edges of the stove so that persons passing by will not strike them; don't reach over steaming kettles. When using the water-bath method, be sure to

lower the jars very carefully into the boiling water to avoid breakage. Be equally careful when lifting the trayholder out of the bath to avoid splattering and splashing hot water and being burned.

Beer seems to have been used from the most ancient times in Babylon and Egypt.

Beheading was regarded as an honorable form of execution by the Romans.

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