

Reader Recipes

We're looking for unusual, innovative, or just plain good-tasting recipes. If you have a favorite you'd like to share, send to: Reader Recipes, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044.

Red Cabbage Soup

1 large onion
1 lb. hamburger, browned
6 cups water
1/2 med cabbage, chopped
3 tbsp sugar
1 tbsp salt - dash pepper
1 bay leaf
3 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
1 12-oz. can tomato paste

Bring ingredients to a boil and simmer until cabbage is done.

Note: Use regular green cabbage. The juice turns it red.

Leona Matz,
Galeton, Penn.

Chicken & Cherries

1/3 cup flour
1/2 tsp paprika
1 1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp garlic salt
1 can black cherries
1/2 cup sauterne
6 skinned chicken breasts

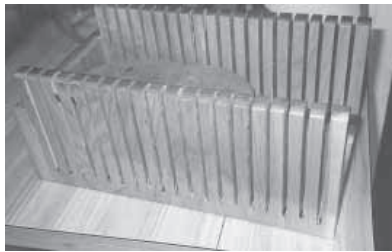
Combine dry ingredients in paper bag. Shake breasts in the mixture two at a time. Heat oil in skillet and brown chicken. Add cherries. Pour sauterne over the top. Simmer, covered, about 35 min.

Carole Eberly
101 Cherry Recipes

Microwave Beer Bread

2 cups self-rising flour
1 cup flour
3 tbsp sugar
12 oz. beer
1 tbsp butter, softened
Cornflake crumbs

Mix together flour, sugar and beer. Spray a glass loaf pan with cooking spray. Sprinkle bottom and sides with crumbs. Spoon batter into pan and top with butter and a light sprinkling of cornflake crumbs. Microwave on medium for 9 min., then on high for 2 min.



George Borton's slotted wooden box lets him slice evenly through fresh-baked bread.

Slotted Box For Slicing Bread

This slotted wooden box ensures even slicing for homemade bread loaves. It was made by George Borton of Zearing, Iowa, for Rex Gogerty.

Gogerty often makes his own bread and wanted a slotted box that would let him slice through the bread more easily and more uniformly. The interior of the box measures 12 3/4 in. long by 5 1/2 in. wide with 6-in. high sides, and has 1/8-in. wide slots that can accommodate an electric knife. The slots are slightly more than 1/2 in. apart.

To slide a loaf you place it against the closed end of the box and hold it steady with one hand, while using your other hand to cut through the slots.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, George Borton, 213 No. Olive, Zearing, Iowa 50278 (ph 641 487-7644).



Ponder installed a larger section of pipe in water line (see arrows) to catch grit before it reaches filter. Spigot at bottom is opened to eject grit.

Grit Catcher Saves Water Filters

Grit in the water line can mess up water heaters and plug lines. Filters take care of the grit, but excessive grit shortens filter life. Everette Ponder came up with a simple way to pull out grit before water reaches the filter.

"The area I live in has a lot of grit in the water," explains Ponder. "I knew that when water goes into a larger pipe, it slows down and the grit should fall out, so I added a larger diameter pipe between the pump and the filter."

To capture the grit and make it easy to remove, Ponder used a T design. The standard 1-in. line coming from the water pump is interrupted by a section of 2-in. line to slow the water. The 2-in. T installed in the line has a 10-in. long section of pipe extending down to a 2-in. ball valve.

"As water passes across the top of the T, the grit drops out and down to the ball valve," says Ponder. "To empty the grit, I simply open the valve. I don't have to shut off the water or anything." Ponder suggests mounting the T and ball valve high enough so a bucket can be placed beneath it. The entire apparatus cost him about \$25. Savings in extended filter life quickly paid for it.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Everette Ponder, Jr., 3 Paramount Drive, Leicester, N.C. 27848 (ph 828 683-1694).

Plastic Mesh Drainage For Plant Containers

When you use rocks to fill in the bottom of potted plants, eventually the dirt will filter down around the rocks and they'll no longer provide optimal drainage. The rocks also take up valuable root space.

"Better Than Rocks" is a plastic mesh made from 100 percent recycled plastic that's designed to fill the bottom one third of a pot. It results in optimal drainage, lighter containers and superior plant health, says inventor Sarah Atkins. Roots that require the space will grow down through the mesh.

The product is sold in either pre-cut squares or rolls which can be easily cut with a scissors or shears to any size. Two to four layers work best for large planter sizes. "I wanted my containers to be lighter. What I didn't expect to find out was that the pots also drain better. They can be left out in heavy rain without becoming water-logged," says Atkins.

"Better Than Rocks" helps simplify fall cleanup, says Atkins. "Once your containers are emptied, simply rinse off the plastic mesh and place it back in the planter. You can reuse this product year after year."

It's available in a variety of sizes to fit most popular size pots. It's also available in a 16 by 96-in. roll which can be cut to any desired size.

Pre-cut squares sell for \$7, \$8.50, and \$10 plus S&H. The roll sells for \$35 plus S&H. Mention "FARM SHOW" for a 20% discount on your purchase.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Better Than Rocks, P.O. Box 241, Hudson, Wis. 54016 (ph 888 994-7855 or 715 381-9700; info @ better than rocks.com; www.betterthanrocks.com).

FARM SHOW®

New
Products
Especially For
Women And The
Farm, Ranch
Home



Stand-up gardening system makes use of heavy duty black plastic tubs.

An Easy Way To Garden

Walter Gray of Vidor, Texas, recently sent FARM SHOW photos of a stand-up gardening system he made using heavy duty black plastic tubs.

"These tubs are normally used to hold sorghum syrup that ranchers feed to cattle during the winter for protein. Each tub holds about 26 gallons of potting soil and compost," says Gray. "I got some of the tubs free from ranchers, and bought the others cheap at an auction."

He made a series of 8-ft. long wooden stands, using four landscape timbers to make each stand. Each stand holds four tubs, with the tops of the tubs located waist high for easy access. He drills five 1/2-in. dia. holes in the bottom of each tub and also adds about 4 in. of Styrofoam peanuts to help with drainage.

"I have five stands for a total of 20 tubs and have grown onions, bush tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, potatoes, and strawberries. I just add more potting soil as needed. The only problem I've had with the tubs is that they dry out fast. To keep them watered, I recently added drip irrigation with a timer," says Gray.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Walter Gray, 3165 Shivers St., Vidor, Texas 77662 (ph 409 769-7069).



"Better Than Rocks" is a plastic mesh that's designed to fill the bottom one third of a pot. It's sold in either pre-cut squares or rolls which can be easily cut with a scissors to any size. The material makes your containers lighter, and pots also drain better.

