Icicle Pickles

Ingredients

- 2 gallons cucumbers, cut lengthwise
- 1 gallon boiling water
- 1 qt salt
- 1 gallon boiling water (second soak)
- 1 piece of alum, size of a walnut
- 2 1/2 qts cider vinegar
- 3 pts white sugar
- Handful of pickling spices (hot)

Instructions

1. Cut cucumbers lengthwise and place in crock or large container.
2. Combine 1 gallon boiling water and 1 qt salt. Pour over cucumbers.
3. Drain. Cover with boiling water and let stand 24 hours.
4. Drain. Cover with boiling water to which a piece of alum the size of a walnut has been added. Let stand 24 hours.
5. Drain. Combine cider vinegar, white sugar, and pickling spices. Pour over cucumbers. Let stand overnight.
6. Each morning for 4 days: drain the syrup, reheat it, and pour it back over the cucumbers.
7. On the final (4th) day, pack into jars or leave in crock.

Editor's Notes

- **"piece of alum size of walnut"** - Alum (potassium alum or aluminum sulfate) was historically used as a crisping agent in home pickle recipes. Modern food safety guidance advises against using alum in pickles, as it can cause gastrointestinal distress. The USDA no longer recommends alum in home canning. Readers should be aware of this risk.
- **"pickling spices (hot)"** - The parenthetical "(hot)" most likely refers to hot/spicy pickling spice blend rather than temperature, and is transcribed accordingly.

Thoughts from My Rocking Chair



Icicle Pickles

2 gal pickles cut lengthwise
1 gal boiling Wtr
1 pt salt
Pour over pickles

Drain, cover with Boiling Wtr & let stand 24 hrs

Drain, Cover with Boiling Water to which a piece of alum size of Walnut has been added Let stand 24 hrs.

Drain, Cover with following
2½ qts cider Vinegar
3 pts. White Sugar
Handful of pickling spice (hot)
Let stand over nite

Drain & reheat syrup - Pour over pickles each Morning for 4 days

Pack in jars last day or leave in crock

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