Grandma's Pickled Onions

Recipe #4641

Submitted by: phocaena

Preparation time: more than 30 minutes

Ingredients

½ cup sea salt

2.25 L water

11/2 kg unpeeled very small onions or shallots

4 tablespoons brown sugar

4 cups malt or apple cider vinegar

1 teaspoon black peppercorns

1 teaspoon mixed or green peppercorns

1/2 teaspoon whole allspice

4 bay leaves, crumbled

12 whole cloves

3 small chopped and deseeded chillies

Method

- 1. In a mixing bowl, dissolve ¼ cup sea salt in 1.15 L water. Add the onions and weigh them down gently with a plate that fits inside the bowl. They must be kept submerged.
- 2. Stand for 8 to 12 hours.
- 3. Drain and peel onions, and return them to the bowl.
- 4. Make a new brine with another batch of salt and water, pour it over the onions, and weigh them down gently again.
- 5. Stand for 2 days.
- 6. In a non-reactive saucepan, bring the sugar and vinegar to a boil. Cool.
- 7. Drain and rinse the onions twice.
- 8. Mix all picking spices together and ½ fill preserving jars with onions.
- 9. Divide ½ the spices on top of onions.
- 10. Fill jars to top with remaining onions and place remaining spices on top.
- 11. Fill each jar of onions with the cooled, sweetened vinegar, ensuring that onions are completely covered..
- 12. Cover the jar with a non-reactive cap, preferably all plastic or glass.
- 13. Refrigerate the jars for at least 1 month before eating the onions.

Recipe notes

They will keep for at least 6 months, if you can resist them for that long!

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