

Brunswick Stew in a 17 gallon Pot

5 gals - Chicken/Beef broth

25 lbs - Potatoes

12 lbs - Onions

1 lbs - Butter

8 lbs - Butterbeans - soaked; uncooked

6 pods - Cayenne Peppers

10 1/2 lbs - Cooked beef

18 lbs - Cooked chicken

3 1/2 gals - Diced tomatoes

8 qts - Corn

2 cups - Molasses (homemade, if you have some. Blackstrap will do, otherwise)

1 cup - Sea Salt

1/2 cup - Black Pepper

Stew is to be cooked over a wood fire (hickory), in a 17 gallon iron pot.

Pre-warm pot with 2 gallons of water. The broth comes from the pre-cooked meat. Add approximately 4 gallons of broth to the water, after it begins to boil.

When it boils, again, add the potatoes and onions, as these take the longest to cook.

Remember to stir pot, continuously, once you begin to add ingredients. The stew will be cooking at a slow boil, and the ingredients will stick to the wall of the pot, if not stirred. Be sure to have someone as a relief stirrer. You will get very tired of stirring. Don't count on your neighbor to stop, during deer season. He just waves and speeds up.

When the potatoes are soft enough to mash, add the butter.

Add the butterbeans, after the butter is melted and stirred thoroughly.

Test the butterbeans, and if done, toss in the cayenne peppers, and add the beef and chicken.

When the chicken has cooked to pieces, add the tomatoes. Cook until tomatoes are blended and cooked.

Add the corn. Test the corn. If done, add the molasses, sea salt, and black pepper.

Finish at a slow boil and remove stew when flavor is to your taste, or your arms are tired and about to fall off from stirring, because your neighbor won't stop.

If you get the pot on at around 08:00 or 09:00 am, you will be drawing off the stew (for cooling and sampling) around 14:00 to 15:00.

Cooling should be done in many pots, on top of the picnic table, constantly stirring (as it will spoil if left sitting).

Once stew has cooled to just warm, put in 1 quart freezer bags, as they can be frozen flat this way.

Note: It is best to cook your stew in cold weather. No leaves. No flying critters. However, the cats have to be shooed away, while cooling. They will sample, if not. And, cooling doesn't take as long.