

The Edible Garden

Recipe featured at the Columbus Day Festival Weekend demonstration, October 11

Chicken Thighs and Porridge with Apples and Chestnuts

By: Michel Nischan, chef, author, and founder of The Wholesome Wave Foundation

Ingredients

4 tablespoons grapeseed oil

1/4 cup diced onion

½ cup peeled and diced (about ¼") heirloom squash, such as kabocha, buttercup, or butternut

1 cup peeled and diced (1/4" pieces) roasted chestnuts

1 cup cooked black barley or farro or 1 cup cooked grano or spelt

1 cup rich chicken stock, preferably homemade

½ cup fresh apple cider

½ cup peeled and diced good-quality baking apple, such as real granny smith or Pippin

½ cup crème fraiche or sour cream

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

4 chicken thighs, skin on

2 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temperature

for the herb salad

- 2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh tarragon
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives
- 2 tablespoons freshly grated lemon zest
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

Instructions

- 1. Heat 2 tablespoons of the grapeseed oil in a large skillet over medium heat. When it's hot, add the onion and cook for about 3 minutes, or until softened and lightly browned. Add the squash and chestnuts, cover, and cook for 4 to 6 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until the squash softens a little.
- 2. Add the cooked grains, stock, cider, and apple. Increase the heat to medium-high and simmer until the grains begin to absorb the liquid and become tender.
- 3. Stir in the crème fraiche. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Set aside and keep warm.

- 4. Heat the remaining 2 tablespoons of grapeseed oil in a large, heavy-bottomed skillet over medium-high heat. Add the chicken, skin side down. Transfer to a warm plate lined with a clean kitchen towel to drain.
- 5. To make the herb salad, mix together the parsley, tarragon, chives, and lemon zest in a small bowl. Toss with the olive oil and season to taste with salt and pepper.