Homemade orange-scented mincemeat

This will make a fairly dry mixture but when baked it transforms into a luscious, moist filling.

Makes 500g

Ingredients:

150g currants

125 g raisins or dried berries and cherries with jumbo raisins

25g blanched almonds, finely chopped

1 piece of stem ginger, finely chopped

1 dessert apple, peeled and grated

50g suet

1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg

pinch of dried cloves

finely grated zest and juice of 1 orange

2 tablespoons of Cointreau

1 tablespoon of soft, dark brown sugar

Combine all the ingredients together in a large bowl, cover and leave to steep at least overnight. Decant into a sterilised jar if not using immediately.

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