

FROM THE MAILBAG

Pumpricot Jam

Dear Aunt Daisy,

A long time ago you published a list of recipes for dried apricots, including several combination jams. Lately I was told of apricot and pumpkin jam, the maker defying anyone to detect any flavour other than that of apricot. She has lost the recipe. It appealed to me at once, and we both wondered if Aunt Daisy might have it in her files, or even if one of the Daisy Chain might have it. "Taupiri."

I asked the Daisy Chain for the recipe and here it is, from "Another Link," Dunedin. She says it is truly delightful.

One pound dried apricots, 2 lb. pumpkin cut in small pieces, 4 lb. sugar, 3 pints water. Wash apricots and soak them 24 hours in water. Cut up pumpkin and put over it 1½ lb. of the sugar, then leave it overnight. Next day, put apricots and the water in which they were soaking into jam pan, add pumpkin and remaining 2½ lb. sugar. Boil all approximately 2 hours or until it will set when tested.

Chocolate Sauce

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Here is my recipe for a lovely chocolate sauce to use over ice-cream or in making sundaes. One cup cocoa, 2 cups sugar, ¼ teaspoon salt, 2 cups cold water, 3 teaspoons vanilla essence.

Mix cocoa, sugar and salt in saucepan. Stir in water, and cook over low heat until thickened and smooth (about 5 minutes). Cool and add vanilla. Pour into jar or bottle, and seal. Must be kept in refrigerator, or it will only keep a few days. This recipe can also be used to make chocolate milk shakes; or if poured over a dish of ice-cream, topped with chopped nuts, it makes a delicious sundae.

"Happy Listener."

Vase Tipped Over

Dear Aunt Daisy,

A vase of flowers was tipped over on my light oak table and the water was allowed to stay on it for about three days as I was away and it was not noticed. Could you help me with advice as to how to get rid of the ugly stain that is left. "A.B.C." Waimate.

Try working in hot olive oil, or hot camphorated oil. Work patiently, with intervals between, using the ball of the thumb. You may have to do it for several days. Sometimes it has been found effective to lay on two or three thicknesses of brown paper and press with a warm iron, making sure it is not too hot and that the paper does not stick. The idea is to draw the oil in the wood to the surface again. This is done in the intervals between the hot camphorated oil. Finally polish with furniture cream.

War on Flies

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I am wondering if some of your listeners would be interested in what I do to get rid of flies. This only needs doing once a year. I buy from the chemist a bottle of concentrated DDT, pour it in a tin, get an ordinary paint brush and paint the window frames half way down. The idea of half-way is that I have a small daughter and there is thus no chance of her coming into contact with the DDT. The flies die very quickly and needless to say I am kept busy with pan and brush. But I would much rather have dead flies than live ones.

"Eileen," Avondale.

THOSE FINGERMARKS!

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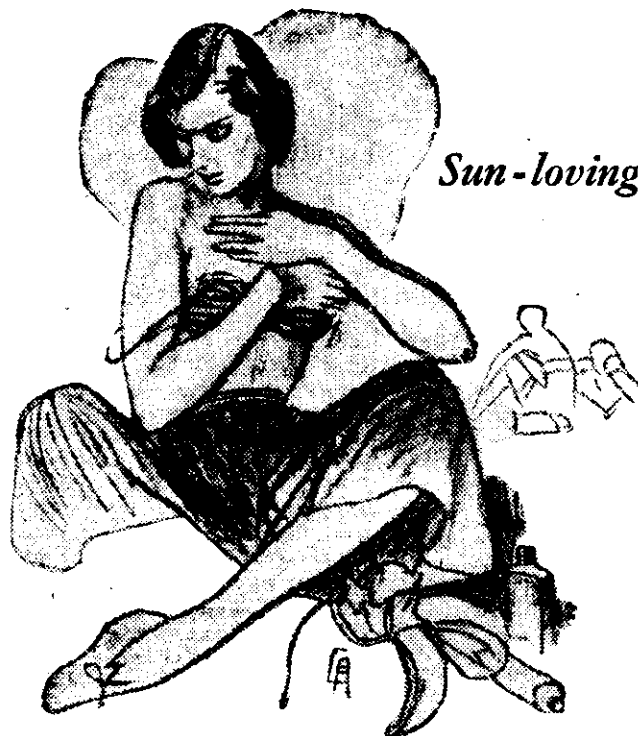
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