

The following recipe is compulsory for all entrants and must be printed in all schedules.

INGREDIENTS:

250g sultanas
250 g chopped raisins
250 g currants
125 g chopped mixed peel
90 g chopped red glace cherries
90 g chopped blanched almonds
1/3 cup sherry or brandy
250 g plain flour
60 g self-raising flour
1/4 teaspoon grated nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
250g butter
250g soft brown sugar
½ teaspoon lemon essence OR finely grated lemon rind
½ teaspoon almond essence
½ teaspoon vanilla essence
4 large eggs.

RECOMMENDED METHOD:

Mix together all the fruits and nuts and sprinkle with the sherry or brandy. Cover and leave for at least 1 hour, but preferably overnight. Sift together the flours and spices. Cream together the butter and sugar with the essences. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after, each addition, then alternately add the fruit and flour mixtures. Mix thoroughly. The mixture should be stiff enough to support a wooden spoon. Place the mixture into a prepared **square 20cm x 20cm (8" x 8") tin** and bake in a slow oven for approximately 3 ½ - 4 hours. Allow the cake to cool in the tin.

Note: To ensure uniformity and depending upon the size it is suggested the raisins be snipped into 2 or 3 pieces, cherries into 4-6 pieces and almonds crosswise into 3-4 pieces.