Cherry Reduction Sauce

December 19th, 2022

This reduction was inspired by Cheerwine Soda, a super sweet soft drink that is commonly found in North Carolina. Like Cheerwine, this homemade cherry reduction can be used in a wide range of recipes, such as BBQ sauce, cherry topping for deserts, a replacement for grenadine, or as a flavoring for soda water. In addition to the frozen cherries, this recipe a lso calls for bottled cherry juice. For best results, ensure that the juice has no additional sugar added and contains 100% cherry juice. Do not settle for a cheaper mix that includes other filler juices, such as pear juice or grape juice. In order to make into Cherry Syrup, dissolve an additional 1.5 Cups of Sugar.

Ingredients:

8 Ounces Frozen Cherries, thawed and quartered (pits removed)

- 1 Cup Cherry Juice
- 1/2 Cup Sugar
- 1/8 Teaspoon Chinese 5 Spice Powder
- 1/8 Teaspoon Table Salt

Directions:

In a heavy duty blender or using an immersion blender, blend the Cherry Juice and Cherries until smooth.

Add the Cherry/Cherry Juice mixture, Sugar, 5 Spice, and Salt to a heavy saucepan over medium heat and stir to dissol ve the Sugar.

Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and simmer.

Simmer for about 30 minutes, until the syrup has thickened enough to leave a trail when you pull a spatula through it.

Remove from heat.

Pour the liquid into a clean canning jar and seal. Cool to room temperature, then refrigerate up to 6 weeks.

This recipe yields about 1 Cup of Cherry Reduction.