Creamy Cocourt Spaghetti & Turkey Meatballs

INGREDIENTS

2 slices whole-wheat bread, hand torn into small pieces

1 large egg, slightly beaten

1 lb. ground turkey

1 ½ tsp salt

1 tsp black pepper

4 cloves garlic, minced

2 Tbsp. olive oil,

1 can coconut milk, set 4.5 tsp coconut milk to the side in separate bowl

4.5 tsp cornstarch

2 carrots, cut in bias slices

½ cup sliced onion

1 packet whole-wheat spaghetti (or other whole-wheat pasta)

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Combine the bread pieces, egg, turkey, salt, pepper and garlic in a large bowl, until well combined.
 - 2. Form into balls.
- 3. In a large sauté pan, heat the olive oil for about 30 seconds. Add the meatballs, one at a time, taking care not to overcrowd the pan.
- 4. Cook for about 10 minutes, until the meatballs have reached an internal temperature of 165 °F. They should be brown on all sides.
- 5. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of water to a boil, add the pasta and cook per package directions.
- 6. Use a fork to whisk 4.5 tsp cornstarch with 4.5 tsp coconut milk to make slurry and set aside.
 - 6. When all the meatballs are cooked remove them from the pan and place onto a plate.
- 7. In the same pan used to cook the meatballs, reduce heat to medium-low and using a wooden spoon scrape up any of the brown bits (known as fond) that was left over during the cooking process.
- 8. Add in the coconut milk, coconut milk slurry, carrots and onions and simmer, still on medium-low heat, for three minutes.
 - 9. Add the meatballs back to the pan and allow to cook for another minute or so, until well combined with the coconut milk and vegetables.
 - 10. Add salt and pepper to taste and serve atop pasta.

CHEF TIP: Make sure to whisk coconut milk and cornstarch until there are no lumps left in the slurry

FOOD SAFETY: Make sure meatballs are cooked to 165°F to ensure they are cooked thoroughly.

Raven Tuffin EFNEP Educator rstuffin@ncsu.edu





