Vata↓, Pitta ↓, Kapha ↑↓*

Serves: 4 to 5

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 45 to 50 minutes

*Kapha types can enjoy in moderation.

INGREDIENTS

For the roasted cashews and coconut:

- 1 teaspoon ghee
- 1/4 cup cashew pieces
- 3 tablespoons shredded coconut

For the kitchari:

- 1 1/4 cups whole mung beans, soaked
- 1 to 2 tablespoons sesame oil (use coconut oil for Pitta)
- ½ teaspoon cumin seed, whole
- ½ teaspoon brown mustard seed, whole (omit for Pitta)
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons finely minced ginger (about 2 inch cube)
- 1 teaspoon finely minced serrano pepper (optional, omit for Pitta)
- 2 teaspoons Agni Churna (or Avurvedic spice blend of choice)*
- 8 cups chicken broth or veggie broth (substitute with water)
- 3/4 cup brown rice
- 1 cup chopped broccoli
- 1 cup chopped cauliflower
- 1 medium carrot, chopped
- 2 celery stalks, chopped
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon ghee (use 1 teaspoon for Kapha)
- Chopped scallions, for garnish (optional)
- Chopped cilantro leaf, for garnish (optional)

^{*}If an Ayurvedic spice blend is not available, substitute with 1 teaspoon turmeric powder, and ½ teaspoon each of cumin, fennel, and coriander powder.

DIRECTIONS

Roasting the cashews and coconut:

*Feel free to make extra to add on top of each individual serving (I do!)

- 1. To save time, it is recommended to do this step while the kitchari is cooking.
- 2. Place a small frying pan over medium heat and add in 1 teaspoon of ghee.
- 3. Once hot, add in the cashews and coconut.
- 4. Sauté here for 2 to 3 minutes or until the coconut and cashews are slightly brown and toasted, stirring constantly.
- 5. Once toasted, take the pan off of the heat and set aside until needed.

Making the kitchari:

- 1. Soak the mung beans overnight in a large container of water. If time is short, place the beans in a glass container and cover them with boiling water. Let the beans soak in the hot water for a minimum of 30 minutes, although at least 3 to 6 hours would be ideal.
- 2. Strain the beans and discard the water.
- 3. Heat the sesame oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add in the cumin seeds, brown mustard seeds, and black pepper. Sauté for 2 minutes, stirring frequently.
- 4. Add in the minced ginger and serrano pepper (if using). Sauté for one minute, stirring constantly.
- 5. Add in the Agni Churna and sauté for 30 seconds, stirring constantly.
- 6. Add in the broth (or water), increase the heat to high, and bring it to a boil.
- 7. Once boiling, reduce the heat to medium and add in the mung beans and brown rice. Cook, mostly covered, for 25 minutes. Stir every 10 minutes.
- 8. While cooking, begin to chop the broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, and celery.
- 9. After 25 minutes, add in the carrots and celery. Continue to cook on medium heat for 5 minutes. Stir half way through.
- 10. Add in the broccoli and cauliflower. Reduce the heat slightly to medium-low and cook for 10 to 15 minutes. Stir every 3 to 5 minutes. If at any point the kitchari becomes too dry, carefully add in more broth or water by the ½ cup.
- 11. After 10 minutes, check on your kitchari. If the beans, rice, and veggies are not soft and well-cooked, reduce the heat to low, cover the pan completely, and cook for an additional 5 minutes (or until the preferred texture is reached). Check and stir every 1 to 2 minutes.
- 12. Once the kitchari is cooked to your desire, turn the heat off. Add in the salt, lemon juice, ghee, and roasted cashews and coconut. Stir well until all of the ingredients have been evenly blended.
- 13. Serve into bowls. Garnish each bowl with a handful of scallions (if using) and cilantro (if using). Sprinkle with extra roasted cashews and coconut if available.
- 14. Enjoy this nourishing kitchari dish as a hearty, healthy lunch or dinner anytime you need a boost of energy and vitality!