

PLUMS





cinnamon



toasted pine nuts



mascarpone

Grilled Cinnamon Plums with Sweetened Mascarpone, Vanilla Honey and Toasted Pine Nuts

Ingrid Beer at The Cozy Apron (thecozyapron.com)—a site where she shares her creative culinary master pieces and love for food—encourages us to top our Texas grills with one of her favorite summertime treats.

the twist

The sprinkle of pine nuts brings the flavor back to the earthy stone fruit and adds just a touch of hardiness.

did you know?

In the U.S., California produces the most plums due to mild winters, but other major plum-producing states include Idaho, Michigan, Oregon and Washington.

the hook

The sweetened

mascarpone that tops

these delicious plums

adds a creamy richness

to this dish-one that

will keep you coming back for "just one

more taste."





with Grilled Peach Compote and Candied Pecans

Matthew Zoch, pastry chef at Prego Italian Restaurant in Houston, whips up a grill-topping dessert with some of Texas' best summertime offerings—peaches and pecans.

the twist

It's easy enough to throw some peach slices on the grill but chef Zoch takes it to another level with his peach compote-mmm, saucy.

did you know? "The New England Kitchen" (May 1894) said

of the shortcake: "The true shortcake is neither bread, nor cake, nor pastry... It is a modernized form of the pandowdies of our grandmothers."

You'll definitely "taste test"

a few as they cool, but don't

forget to save some for the final plating!



vanilla beans



PEARS







Cumin Grilled Pear with Stilton and Caramelized Pecans

Ethné and Philippe de Vienne—owners of Spice Trekkers (spicetrekkers.com), an e-commerce site for spices and teas that they procure from around the world—share with us one of the most coveted desserts from their catering days.

the hook Stilton cheese adds a richness and a bite to this flavorful, earthy dessert



the twist

It's not often you hear of cumin being used in a dessert-like a good red wine, it's not just for meat anymore.

did you know?

Many people know Stilton is a type of blue cheese, but did you know that Stilton has its own trademarked certification? There are only six dairies in the world certified to produce Stilton cheese.



cumin seeds