Cacik

Pronounced "jaah-jeek," cacik is one of an endless variety of garlicky yogurt and cucumber salads. Eat as a salad or saucelike accompaniment to pilafs and rice.

INGREDIENTS:

 □ ½ English cucumber, coarsely shredded
 □ 2 to 3 garlic cloves

☐ Salt to taste

□ 1½ to 2 cups whole-milk plain yogurt, stirred

1/2 cup low-fat sour cream

☐ A few drops of vinegar
☐ Extra virgin olive oil, if needed

Garnish (optional)

□ About 1/3 cup coarsely chopped walnuts

☐ Chopped fresh feathery dill

INSTRUCTIONS: Squeeze shredded cucumber with your hands.

Marlena Spieler's latest book is "Pasta." She divides her time between the Bay Area and Lon-

don, and is a regular contributor

Place in a colander to drain further. Chop garlic on a cutting board with salt until it becomes a paste. Blend yogurt and sour cream. Stir in garlic paste, then the cucumber. Taste for salt; add a few drops of vinegar. If needed, add a teaspoon or two of olive oil. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

To serve, spoon into a bowl. Top with optional garnish. Serves 4

PER SERVING: 105 calories, 6 g protein, 8 g carbohydrate, 5 g fat (4 g saturated), 22 mg cholesterol, 98 mg sodium, 0 fiber.

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