Lemon Barley "Risotto" with Bacon & Spinach

Comfort and flavour at it's best.

Ingredients

6 slices bacon

Salt and pepper to taste

½ cup chopped shallots or onions

- 1 1/3 cups quick-cooking barley
- 1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 2 ½ cups low-salt chicken broth
- $^{\frac{1}{4}}$ lb. (4 cups loosely packed) baby spinach, washed and spundry
- 1/3 cup fresh grated Parmesan Cheese
- 3 tsp. finely grated lemon

Prep & Directions

- 1. Crumble into small pieces.
- 2. Heat in pan to medium high.
- 3. Add the shallots or onions to a skillet on med-high and cook until they start to soften, about 1 minute.
- 4. Add the barley and cook until well coated with pan drippings, about 30 seconds.
- 5. Add the lemon juice and cook, stirring for 15 seconds.
- 6. Pour in chicken broth and bring to a boil, scraping up any

browned bits in the pan. Reduce the heat to medium low, cover, and simmer until the barley is tender, 12 minutes.

- 7. Uncover the pan, raise the heat to medium high and cook, stirring occasionally, until most of the liquid has evaporated, 1 to 2 minutes.
- 8. Stir in the spinach and cook until wilted, 1 minute.
- 9. Stir in the bacon, Parmesan cheese, and lemon zest and heat through, 1 to 2 minutes.
- 10. Season with salt and pepper and serve immediately.
- 11. Add <u>Nutrafarms Chicken</u> or Shrimp for something a little different