Buttermilk Scones with Apricots and Orange Zest

Adapted slightly from Sunset, Breakfast & Brunch



Servings: 18

3 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 cup cold butter, cut in small bits
[1 1/2 cubes]

1/3 cup sugar

3/4 cup dried apricots, finely chopped, or dates or currants [in original recipe]

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

2 teaspoons grated orange peel, [original recipe used 1 teaspoon]

2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder

1 cup buttermilk

3/4 teaspoon salt TOPPING:

1 tablespoon half and half

1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

2 tablespoons sugar

1. Preheat oven to 425°. In a large bowl, stir together flour, sugar, baking powder, soda and salt.

2. Using a pastry blender, cut butter into flour mixture until it resembles coarse cornmeal; stir in dried fruit and orange peel.

3. Make a well in the center of the mixture; add buttermilk all at once.

4. Stir with fork until dough cleans the sides of the bowl. Gather dough into a ball, and turn out onto a floured surface. Roll or pat into a 1/2 inchthick circle. Cut out shapes using a 2½ inch cookie cutter.

5. Using a pastry brush, brush tops with cream and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar.

6. Bake for 12 minutes or until lightly browned.

Per Serving (excluding unknown items): 183 Calories; 8g Fat (39.3% calories from fat); 3g Protein; 25g Carbohydrate; 1g Dietary Fiber; 21mg Cholesterol; 285mg Sodium. Exchanges: 1 Grain(Starch); 0 Fruit; 0 Non-Fat Milk; 1 1/2 Fat; 1/2 Other Carbohydrates.