## Spiced Crabapples\n

5 lbs crabapples\n

4½ cups apple cider vinegar (5%)\n

3¾ cups water\n

7½ cups sugar\n

4 tsp whole cloves\n

5 sticks cinnamon\n

6 ½-inch cubes of fresh ginger root\n

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**Procedure**\n

Remove blossom petals and wash apples, but leave stems attached. Puncture the skin of each apple four times with an ice pick or toothpick. Mix vinegar, water, and sugar and bring to a boil. Add spices tied in a spice bag or cheesecloth. Using a blancher basket or sieve, immerse 1/3 of the apples at a time in the boiling vinegar/syrup solution for 2 minutes. Place cooked apples and spice bag in a clean 1- or 2-gallon crock and add hot syrup. Cover and let stand overnight. Remove spice bag, drain syrup into a large saucepan, and reheat to boiling. Fill pint jars with apples and hot syrup, leaving 1/2-inch headspace. \n