

## Farmers Market Squash Sauté

- 2 cups whole grain rotini pasta
- 3 boneless chicken breasts
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 medium zucchini, diced
- 4 medium carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 medium yellow squash, diced
- **2** garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped basil
- 34 cup light Alfredo sauce
- 2 tablespoons shredded

Parmesan cheese

**Cook** pasta according to package directions. Roast chicken breasts at 400 degrees F to an internal temperature of 165 degrees F, about 25-35 minutes. Dice chicken into bite sized pieces. In a large sauté pan, add olive oil, zucchini and carrots. **Sauté** until slightly cooked. Add yellow squash and garlic and sauté until all vegetables are tender. Remove from heat and stir in basil. diced chicken and pasta. Add Alfredo sauce and toss until ingredients are evenly coated. Reheat by tossing the ingredients in the sauté pan for 3-5 minutes over medium heat. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and serve.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 230 calories, 7 g fat, 2.5 g saturated fat, 40 mg cholesterol, 210 mg sodium, 27 g carbohydrate, 4 g sugars, 18 g protein.

SEASON: June through October **NUTRITION FACTS:** Squash is low in calories. One cup raw squash contains only 20 calories. It contains vitamins A and C, and is naturally free of fat, cholesterol and sodium. **SELECTION:** Popular summer squashes include yellow crookneck, yellow straight neck, zucchini, cocozelle and patty pan. Summer squash should be picked or purchased when small and tender; both skin and seeds are eaten. The peel holds many of the nutrients so do not peel. It should be harvested at 6 to 8 inches in length. Patty pan squashes are ready when they are 3 to 4 inches in diameter or less. **STORAGE:** Store unwashed squash

in plastic bags in the crisper drawer of the refrigerator. Wash the squash just before preparing. The storage life of summer squash is brief. Plan to use within two to three days. **PREPARATION:** Summer squash

is a mild flavored vegetable and combines well with herbs and seasonings. Try it with basil, allspice, rosemary and marjoram. Cook summer squash as a vegetable or use in stews, casseroles and main dishes. Summer squash can be grilled, steamed, boiled, sautéed, fried or used in stir-fry recipes.

PRESERVING: Select small squash with small seeds and a tender rind. Wash and cut into 1/2 inch slices and heat in boiling water for 3 minutes. Cool promptly in cold water and drain. Pack in containers leaving ½ inch headspace. Seal and freeze.

## **KENTUCKY SUMMER SQUASH**

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

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Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

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