

Tasty Solution: Squirrel Snack

adapted from an article by Susan Bailey



- 1 Grey squirrels are larger and stronger than their red cousins, they live in denser numbers and out-compete red squirrels for the same food. Yet it is predominantly the virulent squirrelpox virus that greys carry that has driven red squirrel populations from all but a few areas in northern England and Scotland. A recent paper on conservation management by Andy White at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh and colleagues uses red and grey squirrels as a case study, arguing for better control in cases of invasive species whose effects are disease-driven.
- 2 Prince Charles is among those repeating their calls for an organized cull of grey squirrels in Britain as a way of helping the declining native red squirrel. With him being keen on organic food and support for local butchers growing, no doubt he'd approve of putting this squirrel bounty to some culinary use. As we did, at the sixth annual squirrel cook-off in the Six Bells pub, near Cambridge, with 23 dishes of grey squirrel snacks. The culinary treats reflected the very different directions of the cooks: curried Bollywood squirrel, squirrel in filo pastry, squirrel pie, squirrel eggs in a nest, and the winning dish of squirrel sausages.
- 3 Using legally trapped or shot grey squirrels as food has been in vogue for a few years now, a trend picked up back in 2008 when the *Guardian* newspaper proposed squirrel as "the ultimate ethical meal". But are squirrels any healthier than, say, chicken? The US Department of

Agriculture's National Nutrient Database provides the nutritional content of a very wide range of foods, including various game meats. According to the records, per 100g the squirrel has more protein (31g) and less fat (5g) than roasted chicken (29g and 9g), stewed chicken (27g and 7g), or venison (26g and 8g). In fact only rabbit, at 33g and 3.5g, provides a more protein-rich and low-fat meal. However, low-fat and high-protein comes with its own drawbacks – the syndrome known as "rabbit starvation" experienced by hunter-gatherers and subsistence dwellers of northern latitudes, and recorded by Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Steffanson, stems from a diet with insufficient fat; rabbit meat alone is simply too 5.

- 4 So with all the greys living on the estates at Prince Charles's disposal and the professional chefs employed by his Duchy Original brand, I'm keen to see the day that royalty-approved squirrel snacks make their first appearance. Certainly, judging by the varied approaches taken by those in the Six Bells there's plenty of options out there.

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Tekst 3 Tasty solution: squirrel snack

- 1p 3 Wat is volgens alinea 1 de belangrijkste oorzaak voor het krimpen van de aantallen rode eekhoorns?
Geef antwoord in het Nederlands.
- 1p 4 Which of the following is true, according to paragraph 2?
1 Prince Charles publicly advocates bringing down the number of grey squirrels.
2 In some British regions squirrels are the main ingredient of traditional dishes.
A only 1
B only 2
C both 1 and 2
D neither 1 nor 2
- 1p 5 Which of the following fits the gap in paragraph 3?
A bland
B lean
C rare
D tough
- 1p 6 Which of the following best qualifies the tone used in paragraph 4?
A concerned
B disrespectful
C doubtful
D optimistic
- 2p 7 Geef van elke van de volgende personen en instanties aan of in de tekst duidelijk wordt wat zij vinden van het eten van eekhoornvlees.
1 “Andy White [...] and colleagues” (alinea 1)
2 “we” (alinea 2)
3 “the *Guardian* newspaper” (alinea 3)
4 “the professional chefs” (alinea 4)
Noteer “wel” of “niet” achter elk nummer op het antwoordblad.

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.