

Honey Moonshine

Ingredients:

5 gallons spring water

5 pounds honey

2 packets dry yeast (4 ½ teaspoons using bulk yeast)

Directions:

1. Put all your water in a large pot or several pots and bring to a boil.
2. Pour the 5 gallons boiling water into the container that has the honey and stir until it all has dissolved.
3. Allow mash to cool down to 75-80 degrees, (we let ours sit at room temperature overnight)
4. Create a simple yeast starter for 5 gallons of mash
5. Add 1/2 cup of 110-115 degree water to a sanitized jar.
6. Add 2 teaspoons of sugar to the water and mix thoroughly.
7. Add 2 packets of yeast (4 ½ teaspoons using bulk yeast)
8. Swirl the glass to mix in the yeast with the sugar water.
9. Let the glass sit for 10-15 minutes and it will double in size.
10. Once your starter has doubled in size add it to your mash and aerate. (transfer it back and forth in 5-gallon buckets to mix and aerate well, it should look foamy.)
11. Empty the mash into large containers that can seal, and place a release valve at the top to allow gases to escape as the yeast does its job
12. Allow to sit in a dark area, 75-80 degrees is the optimal temperature for this.
13. Wait 7-14 days for the fermentation process, rule of thumb is when the bubbles are all gone it is finished.
14. Strain mash mixture until you can run it through cheese cloth folded over 4 times.

Straining:

1. Use cheese cloth folded over (2 layers of clothe to strain through, placed inside of the strainer to hold it in place) strain again until all liquid runs through clean. You can rinse the cheese cloth as it gets clogged in cold water and then wring out the water so it is just barely damp.
2. Final stain is through cheese cloth folded over 4 times (so liquid has to pass through 4 layers of cloth) repeat 2 times.
3. Your liquid is ready for the still pot now.

Heating:

1. Number 1 rule to follow in heating up your pot is, "low and slow is best"
2. Make sure you have cold water in the worm container all the time as the pot warms up, this is where the alcohol vapor becomes a liquid as it runs through the condenser coils in the cold water
3. Our experience indicates it usually take the liquid to warm up to just around 200 degrees before we see any shine dripping out of the worm.
4. Remember the first 2 ounces of a 5 gallon wash you need to discard, this is methanol and is not good for drinking.