

pinto beans. I'm going to fix the children pinto beans, today. Then, you can cook beans with hominy, the beans we used to have. And you can also cook it with that dry corn, I was telling you. Roast, dry corn.

(Did they put anything in the beans?)

I don't think so, not that I know of. They just put them away, that's all. After they dry, they take those lima beans, looks like, but they were good size. And, I know we used to always, oh grandma used to, whenever she gets hold of something, you all pick these out, the best seeds, large ones, she put them away. Spring comes, she knew where they were.

(How long did they leave the beans on the plant after they made?)

Well, they used to always see, after it's dry, you know, and they pick them right now. They didn't waste anything. But if the frost hits them, grandma used to say, you all pick out all them beans. We spread out a big tarp and let them dry. She'd ...mother would roll the tarp over, and we all just trample on it, all over. Course we always barefoot, or got moccasins on. And we just tramp all over it. Then, mother would take them and shake them up, see if there any bean on that. Then we throw the rest away, and finally we get down to the beans. And grandma would say, wait for a little while, for like this wind today, and then she kind of raise the hulls, and they would fly away, and just leave clean beans.

(Did the Wichita ever pick the beans before they got dry?)

Not that I know of. Well, they might...yea. They used to get some of these green beans, and they shell them when they big, and they cook it with the green corn, they cut off the cob. They used to do that. I almost forgot about that. Well, they had more corn in it than beans, say about one fourth of beans, and three fourths of corn. But they have to both be green. Then they cook the same way when they dry.

(Does that have a name?)

I don't think we have. I just hear mother say, I'm going to cook the green corn and mix beans.

(Well, how did they cook when they had dried beans before they got pots?)