

TYPES OF INDIAN FOOD AND PREPARATION

(Do you cook very many Indian types of food for your family and do they like Indian cooking?)

Yes, my children like majority of the Indian food and my husband likes all of them. We enjoy eating Indian food more so than - we would say vegetables or well-balanced diets. We like Indian type foods better. We do have Indian type foods quite often.

(I understand that you do a lot of this drying corn and drying pumpkins and do you know how to dry this dry meat - beef?)

No, I've never dried beef, but I have seen it done and remember having seen it as a child. I can't remember exactly how it was done, but I know that I liked it. My great grandmother used to bring me things that I didn't know what they were at that time. She visited in our home quite often. And she had dried meat and what she called Indian potatoes and I never did know what they were.

(There is one type of food that I think just the Osages seem to be the only ones that I know of that eats it. And its the "yucca-pins". Do you know how to prepare yucca-pins? Or do you like them?)

Yes, we have had these. We have - my husband has gone and dug them and we have cleaned them, scraped them, prepared them, cooked them and we all like them very much. My children especially like yucca-pins.

(I remember my people used to dry yucca-pins and they'd string them up on a string and they would cut them in about an inch - oh, about an inch thickness and they would put them on a string and I used to see these yucca-pins just drying out in the sun. And that's one way I know they prepared these yucca-pins. But I don't think other Indians eat them. I don't know. They just don't even care to try to - they don't even want to taste them. I noticed that at a lot of feasts where we served them.