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Pimm's Cup Water

This is my take on a non-alcoholic version of a Pimm's Cup Cocktail. A traditional Pimm's Cup Cocktail contains Pimm's N°1 (a gin-based beverage) mixed with lemonade or lemon soda, borage, mint leave, and slices of lemon, orange, and apple.*

1 quart filtered water

4 slices each of lemon and orange

1/8 cup freshly picked borage flowers (Can substitute 1 miniature English cucumber cut in half)

4 large mint leaves, slightly crushed

Mix all ingredients in a large pitcher and let steep at room temperature for 4 hours.

Remove fruit, cucumber or borage, and mint and pour through a fine sieve into a serving pitcher.

Serve at room temperature, chilled or over ice.

Makes 4- 8 ounce glasses.

* Borage is an annual herb, easily be grown from seed, with edible blue or white flowers. The beautiful, delicate flowers taste like cucumber. The flowers can be used on tea sandwiches and in ice cubes, salads and fruit cups and, when candied, are beautiful decorations for cakes and pastries.

However, borage contains a toxic compound which may cause severe liver damage. Frequent use and/or serving large quantities of any part of this herb are not recommended. It should never be given to children, the elderly or anyone with liver problems.

Victoria Wesseler