#35: Barking Buddy (Best Bitter)

CHRIS SWINGLEY (10-OCT-2004)

Named after our dog Buddy.

Recipe (for 5 gallons final volume)

7 pounds (78%) Crisp Maris Otter Pale Malt
1 pound (11%) American Munich 10L
1 pound (11%) American Munich 30L
1 ounces U.S. Willamette whole hops, 4.5% AA (first wort hop)

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¹/₄ teaspoon Irish Moss (15 minutes)

White Labs wlpo22 Essex Ale Yeast, pitched at 68°F

Starter: 3 quart starter built up from a slant (20 ml -> 300 ml -> 3 quarts), cooled, decanted, warmed Aeration: Drill aerator for two minutes after pitching, again three hours later

Water

- Fairbanks city water
- 36½ quarts water treated with:
 - 1 Campden tablet
- 13½ quarts mash water treated with:

4.0 grams Gypsum 1.1 ml 88% Lactic Acid

Mash

• 13½ quarts water @ 157°F, grist ratio of 1½ quarts:pound @ 148°F (Held 90 minutes)

Sparge

• 23.0 quarts water @ 181°F, drain

Boil

• Boiled 8.0 gallons for 85 minutes to yield 5½ gallons wort

Fermentation

- Primary: bucket, 7 days, 65°F. temperature from 63–66 degrees. 1.013 at transfer to secondary
- Secondary: glass, 7 days, 64°F

Packaging

- Kegged at 8 psi, 50°F (1.8 volumes CO₂)
- · Conditioned for 8 weeks
- Ready to drink on 18-Dec-2004

Properties

Starting Gravity: 1.044 Final Gravity: Apparent Extract: 2.8°Plato Original Extract: 11.0°Plato Real Extract: 4.3°Plato Alcohol: 4.3% by volume Alcohol: 3.4% by weight Apparent Attenuation: 74.3% Mash Efficiency: 73% Bitterness: 30 IBU Color: 8°SRM BU:SG: 0.68 I.4I

Tasting Notes

- 28-Nov-04 (7 weeks) Nice and clear, great copper color. Light, and easy to drink, but hop bitterness has a bit of strange bite to it that I can't put my finger on. Maybe the secondary fermentation was too short and there's still stuff in suspension. It probably needs to age another month.
- 23-Jan-05 (15 weeks) Almost gone. Still have a soapy aftertaste that I think is due to the Cascade hops. Taiga dog has the same flaw. I think I may not like Cascade for much other than dry hopping.