

Sausage and Spinach Soup

6 links hot or sweet turkey Italian sausage

2 medium onions, chopped

2 garlic cloves, minced

3 quarts chicken stock

2 15-ounce cans cannellini beans, drained and rinsed

1 14.5-ounce can diced stewed tomatoes, undrained

1 10-ounce can Rotel tomatoes, undrained

1 tablespoon tomato paste

4 cups fresh spinach, stems removed

1 tablespoon dried basil leaves

1 teaspoon dried oregano leaves

1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper

Salt and black pepper to taste

Parmesan cheese

Remove sausage from casings. Form sausage meat into mini-meatballs. Coat a large saucepan or Dutch oven with cooking spray. Place pan over medium-high heat. Working in batches, cook mini-meatballs until brown on all sides. Transfer cooked meatballs to a plate. Set aside. Add onions and garlic to pan (may need to add more cooking spray); cook for 2 minutes. Stir in chicken stock, beans, tomatoes and tomato paste. Return meatballs to pot. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to simmer; cook 15 minutes. Add spinach, basil, oregano, cayenne and salt and black pepper to taste. Cook an additional 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve soup with a sprinkle of Parmesan cheese. *Serves 8-10*.