Creamy Succotash with Bacon, Thyme & Chives

4 ounces thick-sliced bacon (about 4 slices), cut into ½-inch pieces

1 medium onion, cut into medium dice
1 10-ounce package frozen baby lima beans

1/4 tsp. salt

Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

1 10-ounce package frozen sweet corn

If winter's fresh produce selection leaves you wanting more, then try some frozen veggies.

½ cup heavy cream

1½ tsps. minced fresh thyme leaves 2 tsps. snipped fresh chives

Fry bacon over medium-high heat in a Dutch oven until crisp, 7 to 8 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer bacon to

2 Tbs. of the bacon drippings. Add

onions; sauté until tender, about 5 minutes. Add lima beans, ½ cup water, salt and pepper, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and continue to simmer.

a paper towel-lined plate. Pour off all but

covered, until partially cooked, about 5 minutes. Add corn, cream and thyme; return to a simmer, and warm until vegetables are fully cooked and

cream doesn't pool, about 5 minutes longer. (Can be refrigerated at this point up to two days ahead.) When ready to serve, stir bacon and chives into warm succotash. This recipe doubles easily.

SERVES 6 = PER SERVING: 199 calories, 6g protein, 21g carbohydrates, 10g fat (6g saturated), 33mg cholesterol, 4g fiber, 313mg sodium

Contributing Editor PAM ANDERSON is the author of four cookbooks, including the new Perfect Recipes for Having People Over (HOUGHYON MIFFLIN. \$35).