FINNISH Misch BREAD

In large mixer bowl combine 1 cup all-purpose flour, 1 package active dry yeast, and ¾ teaspoon ground cardamom. Heat ¾ cup milk, 1/J cup sugar,¼ cup butter or margarine, and½ teaspoon salt till warm (115-120°), stirring constantly to melt butter. Add to dry mixture; add 1 egg. Beat at low speed with electric mixer for ½ minute, scraping bowl. Beat 3 minutes at high speed. By hand, stir in 1 ¾ to 2 cups allpurpose flour to make a moderately soft dough.

Turn out on floured surface, knead till smooth (5 to 8 minutes). Place in greased bowl; turn once. Cover; let rise till double (about 1 ¼ hours)., 1 inch apart, on greased baking sheet. Punch down. Divide in thirds; form into balls. Cover; let rest 10 minutes. Roll each ball to a 16-inch rope. Line up the 3 ropes

Braid loosely. Pinch ends together and tuck under. Cover; let rise in warm place till almost double (about 40 minutes). Brush with milk and sprinkle with 1 tablespoon sugar. Bake at 375° for 20 to 25 minutes. Remove from baking sheet; cool. Makes 1 braid.



