

# Roots 'stole best friend's sauce recipe'

by AIDAN RADNEDGE

**REGGAE** Reggae sauce millionaire Levi Roots stole the product's secret recipe from a friend and took it on Dragons' Den, a court heard yesterday.

The entrepreneur broke an agreement that they would market the product together, it was claimed.

The father of seven's best friend Tony Bailey is now suing for a share of the profits made from the sale of the sauce.

He claims the Jamaican musician promised him money following the success of the product and even apologised for lying on the show, when he claimed the recipe was his grandmother's so it would 'be accepted'.

He told London's High Court: 'I gave Levi the first batch of the sauce. Levi hid things from us. He knew what he was going to do.'

He added: 'I don't see Levi as a chef. He would help but he's not a chef. Levi



Sued: Levi Roots

loves his music.' Restaurateur Mr Bailey, who sold his sauce in Jamaica before arriving in England in 1986, claimed he kept the recipe secret for 22 years before writing it down and showing it to Roots in February 2006. The 52-year-old said he destroyed the original copy of the ingredients.

But Roots claims he developed the sauce himself and asked his friend of 17 years to join the business.

He said there was no agreement and Mr Bailey was 'not interested' in the venture. Mr Bailey and financial adviser Sylvester Williams are suing for a third share each of the profits made from Reggae Reggae sauce, which they contend is at least £300,000. The hearing continues.