

- (a) That no net having a length greater than 100 yards and with any mesh smaller than $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches shall be used in any estuary, river or inlet or in the entrance waters thereof.
- (b) That no net having a length greater than 132 yards and with any mesh smaller than 2 inches shall be used in any other waters.
- (c) That not more than two crayfish pots or six drop nets or traps for taking crabs or marron or one scoop net or dredge net for taking prawns shall be used or carried in any boat at any one time.
- (d) That not more than two gallons of prawns shall be taken on any one day.
- (e) That no fish caught while any fishing net or other article mentioned in this sub-regulation is being used shall be sold or consigned, offered or exposed for sale.
- (f) No set net having meshes less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches may lawfully be used in the open waters of the Swan or Canning Rivers or Peel or Leschenault Inlets.
- (g) Every float attached to a crayfish pot shall be legibly marked or branded with the number of the license.

Leaflets to explain the new regulations are not yet prepared but it is hoped that they will be available for issue to amateur fishermen well in advance of the New Year.

RANGE OF RARE TORTOISE EXTENDED

On Sunday, August 4, Mr. R.J. Richardson, of Pechey Road, Swan View, noticed a tortoise crawling across a paddock at the rear of his property. He kept the animal, and the next day his daughter Jenny, aged 10, took it to school. The Headmaster, Mr. T.C. Young, noticed that it was not one of the common long-necked tortoises and immediately contacted the Western Australian Museum. In view of the prohibition against the collection of short-necked tortoises, Mr. Young brought the animal to the Department for identification

and it was confirmed that this was indeed a specimen of the Short-necked Tortoise (Pseudemydura umbrina).

Subsequently, Fauna Officer H.B. Shugg and Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler visited the school and were taken by Miss Richardson to her home and shown the spot where the tortoise had been found. They reported that it had been picked up in fairly dense capeweed (Cryptostemma calendula) growing under passion vines about fifty yards north of Jane Brook. Fortunately, Mr. Richardson had sighted the animal when it was crossing a bare patch of ground.

Mr. Richardson's property is approximately nine miles south of the southernmost limit of the previously known range of the species. In addition to its being far distant, the environment appeared to be quite different. Perhaps the outstanding variation was that this section of Jane Brook is in the foothills of the Darling scarp, whereas all the previous specimens had been taken on the coastal plain. We have not failed to note that no specimen has yet been taken more than half-a-mile from a brook and it seems possible proximity to water may be an essential part of the animal's ecology.

It is understood that further searches along Jane Brook have been made by school children from the Swan View School, but without avail.