

"Other benefits of the burned areas are marketable patches of blueberries, and the business of grunting for worms. This grunting for worms is carried on in open stands of long leaf pine about four months after a burn. The grunting noise is made by rubbing an old car spring leaf over the top end of a 1 x 4 wooden stake two feet long driven about 18" into the ground.

"The top of the stake is rubbed with the car spring and vibrates in such a manner as to make the grunting sound, and the resulting vibrations cause the worms to emerge from the ground.

"The demonstration I saw resulted in about 3000 worms coming to the surface within a 50-foot radius. The worms bring the grunter 60 cents a hundred and are packed 500 to a tin. The grunter I saw in operation had his wife and two children to help him and they picked 60 cans full from daylight until 10 a.m. Not bad at all for a morning's work.

"The worms are shipped all over the U.S.A. and used by fishermen for bait.

"I thought that I might try a little grunting when I got back to the Yukon, but am a little doubtful about what might crawl out from under the rocks!"

EXOTIC TORTOISES

A tortoise recently handed into the South Perth Zoological Gardens has been identified by zoologists of the University of Western Australia as a Mediterranean animal of the genus Clemmys and possibly of the genus leprosa. This species ranges through Spain, Morocco and Algeria. A similar species occurs on Crete and a further similar species occurs in Asia Minor. They are all members of the genus Clemmys.

The tortoise was handed in to the Zoo authorities anonymously by a man who said he had found it on a road. Unfortunately, even the district in which it was found is unknown and in the absence of information it is difficult to say how the animal was brought into the country, although more than likely it was landed from an overseas ship. These animals are sometimes kept by ship's crews as pets.

The tortoise recently found at Bedford Park and which was featured in a local newspaper has been identified as Elseya dentata. This species occurs in Northern Australia and possibly in the Kimberley Division of Western Australia.