

Bush Tucker



Noel Morich is a liaison officer with the Education Department. He is responsible for conveying the views of Aboriginal parents to the Department.

For many years Noel worked as a guard with Westrail and as a result has clocked up hundreds of miles along the railway lines of W.A.

He has retained a strong affinity with his Aboriginal culture and the traditions of his past.



AN Aboriginal word for Zamia palm is *poi*. The *poi* is poisonous unless treated before using as a food source. This can be done by breaking off the female fruit and burying it in sand or clay for a period of time before returning to eat. At the base of the stem, a kapoc like brown substance is to be found. This was used in the Noongar *mias* in conjunction with leaves and reeds as a mattress. The ripe *poi* is a brilliant red colour.



A CHOICE yam known to Noongars as *Coodinge* can be found beneath the ground at the base of a green smooth leaved plant. The yam is an orange red colour and covered with paper-like stringy mesh. It actually looks like an upturned carrot and can be cooked in the ashes of the fire. If eaten raw it is like chilli.

In these photographs Noel Morich is showing Kewdale students local bush tucker.