

Aboriginal Witchetty Grubs & Honey Ants - Ray Mears Extreme Survival - BBC

<http://youtu.be/SJIO0aifJxA>

Questions

Where do you find the Witchetty Grub?

Why is the Witchetty Grub an important food?

How does it taste?

Why is it good for children?

What do the women dig for, why?

Transcript

The women have brought me out to find 'Moku', that's Witchetty grub to us. And this is the Witchetty Bush or Acacia Kempeana. And of course the secret to finding these grubs is knowing what to look for. And what they have shown me is that looking underneath the bushes for mounded soil and particularly for these which are the cases from the grub larvae from which a large grey moth develops and that's a good sign that there's likely to be other grubs here to be dug up.

And there he is, the Witchetty Grub, the Moku. And of course that's not just a popular food but it's a very important one because grubs like this are extremely high in protein.

Here goes for the Witchetty Grub. A bit chewy with a soft centre. That's really quite nice, tastes a bit eggy. The Witchetty Grub can be eaten raw but it's even better if it's being baked in the hot ashes of a camp fire. It's particularly good food for young children as it's easily digested.

These women are looking for an ant. A special ant with a yellow, striped, abdomen. This worker ant will lead them to the entrances of a nest. A hole is dug, often deeper than the woman herself as she skilfully follows the ant tunnels which lead to a large underground chamber. Their objective is to find a sweet treat that hangs on the roof of the main chamber of the nest. These "Honey Ants" are gently eased out with a stick.

These ants become engorged with a honey like fluid and they feed other ants by regurgitation.

It's beautiful. It tastes like liquid barley sugar. Fantastic.



Answers

Underneath the Witchetty Bush.

It is high in protein.

Nice, tastes eggy.

It is easily digested.

They dig for special ants that have a sweet honey.

