

Intruder™

The Good Stuff, Made Better

Everything You Need to Know to Keep Your Crawlers and Critters Plump, Healthy and Super-Active!

The Facts of Life:

Hundreds of kinds of earthworms inhabit the soils of North America. The most popular among anglers are nightcrawlers, garden worms (also known as angle-worms and fishworms), leaf worms, red worms and grunt worms. They have one thing in common. All are eating machines. They literally chew their way through the soil – often eating their own weight in organic material every 24 hours.

Knowledge about their eating habits will help us catch and keep them.

As they move along, they leave behind castings – little piles of humus-like material that enrich the soil. Night crawlers harden on the grass during the days – sometimes you can feel them under your feet. Hardened castings are a sure tip-off to good nighttime crawler hunting.

Now let's go crawler hunting!

Worm Collecting:

Like most of the fish we catch, worms prefer, and are usually found in, different habitats. Here are some short-cuts to collecting them.

Nightcrawlers, like all other worms, breathe through their skins. When heavy rains flood their tunnels, they move up to the surface. Even heavy dew gets them out of the ground at night.

To locate crawler habitat, look for castings during the day, be alert for worms on the road, or for a flock of robins in the same yard, day after day. Residential lawns, golf courses and well-kept parks are good places to collect crawlers. (But some chemicals kill worms!)

To capture crawlers at night, cover the lens of your flashlight with a white plastic bag or red cellophane. This softens the light and keeps it from spooking the critters. Wear sneakers and step lightly – they also fear noise. When you spot a crawler gleaming in the light, grasp firmly by the head and exert steady pressure until the crawlers tires and loosens the grip of its tail on the edge of the hole.

Earth Worms, like crawlers, can be scooped from streets and driveways after a heavy rain with a spatula. Also, search for all kinds of worms in compost piles (made of grass clippings and other organic wastes); turn over boards, rocks and logs along trout streams; also dig for them in moist, rich garden soil.

Red Worms, can be found around barnyards, stables and other places with manure or decaying organic matter. Related leaf worms like to conceal themselves under piles of rotting leaves or in decaying wood.

Grunt Worms, often found in Southern piney barrens with acid soil, can be coaxed up by driving a board a short way into the ground, then rubbing an ax or a piece of steel across the top.

The Care and Feeding of Worms:

The more you fish, the more you'll appreciate the convenience of having a second refrigerator for storing an instant supply of worms, crustaceans and other live bait. (See the table, below, for the temperatures that worms like best.)

Two Things of Vital Importance in Storing Worms:

1. A combination bedding-and-nutrient source to keep worms alive and healthy year round. Bedding is the finest medium known, a complete and time-saving concentrate of worm food and habitat. All the food worms require is contained in their bedding.
2. A custom-made container that's not only strong enough to keep and transport your worms, but also "breathes" to provide the air that's essential to the life of worms. It's equally necessary that the container have a strong cover latch for safety ... an integral freezable crawler "chiller" bottle for the continued cooling of worms during transport.

Intruder provides all of these essentials – complete in a single, affordable package – in its selection of Crawler and Chiller Cribs for most kinds of bait. And that includes shrimp, crayfish and other crustaceans, as well as salmon eggs and other perishable creatures.

By following the directions that come with Crawler Cribs, you'll be able to keep worms feisty and ready for fish – for months, even years!

Ask your fishing tackle dealer for additional information about the essential selection of Crawler Cribs.

All About Temperature:

Unacceptably high temperature is the No. 1 enemy of worms – a killer! Be sure your bedding's at the proper temperature when adding worms. Monitor bedding temperature carefully. A simple thermometer is essential. And nothing keeps worms and other live bait cool during travel like Intruder's Chiller Cribs.

<i>Kinds of Bait</i>	<i>Recommended Temperature</i>
Nightcrawlers	40° to 50°
Garden Worms	60° to 70°
Red Worms	65° to 70°
Crayfish & Shrimp	40° to 50°

How to Condition Nightcrawlers:

Two days before a trip, select as many crawlers as you'll need for fishing. Rinse the worms, place them in an Intruder Crawler Crib half-filled with bedding.

Add strips of wet newspaper to the top of the bedding. Mound the paper above the top of the crib. Then, after putting a freshly-frozen Freezable Chiller Bottle in the lid's bottle slot, press the latched lid into place to create a "pressure pack" inside your Intruder Crawler Crib.

During conditioning, crawlers absorb water from the paper, swelling to twice their normal size – making them larger, stronger and more attractive to fish.

Keeping Crustaceans:

To keep crayfish alive during a fishing trip, pack them in damp weeds or moss in your Intruder Chiller Crib, putting a frozen Chiller Bottle in the top to refrigerate.

After a crayfish molts (loses its hard shell), pack in damp weeds or moss and refrigerate at 40°. This will keep the shell from rehardening for up to 12 days.

Freshwater, saltwater, grass and mud shrimp will also stay alive in damp weeds in your Chiller crib. Use saltwater to moisten the weeds. Shrimp have soft, delicate bodies and must be handled gently.

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