**TEREK SANDPIPER**

**Family**: Scolopacidae  
**Species**: *Xenus cinereus*  
**Common name**: Terek Sandpiper  
**Status**: Migrant  
**Abundance**: Rare  
**Size**: 230 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, Wrybill 200 mm)  
**Habitat**: A bird of muddy estuaries and harbours.  
**Worldwide range**: It breeds in northern Europe and migrates to areas which include East Africa, India and the countries of the western Pacific rim including Australia. A few straggle on to New Zealand to become a regular migrant.  
**New Zealand range**: Recorded in places such as the Manukau Harbour, Miranda, Kaituna Estuary, Ahuriri, Manawatu Estuary, Waituna Lagoon and Awarua Bay.
Description – non-breeding


Conspicuous features
- Long up-curved bill.
- Yellow legs.
- Has a squat posture standing on short legs.

Conspicuous characteristics
- When the bird lands it tends to bob both its head and its tail.
- Feeds with agile running movements sometimes very fast.
- Will wade through shallow water when feeding.
- Tends to associate with flocks of Wrybill roosting on the flock edge.
- At high tide it usually roosts along the waterline.
- When with Wrybills it looks a more solid bird.
- Sometimes it winters over, staying in close contact with Wrybill flocks.

Call A trilling “turloop too”.

Where to find – North Island

South Auckland – Miranda at the “Stilt Ponds”. P. 302. 
Manukau Harbour – Te Hihi and Clarks Beach. P. 301. 

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